

E TIPU, E REA

NGĀ TINI WHETŪ

THE COLLATERAL CHANGE FOR REDUCING CHILD POVERTY

2022



Whānau Ora
COMMISSIONING AGENCY

Ngā Tini Whetū

HE MIHI

Manawatia Te Kāhui o Matariki e. Ka pūrangiaho mai ki te rangi, ko Puanga e tōia mai a Matariki, e mārama ai ko ngā tauira o Ngā Tini Whetū. Ka mātaihia atu rā taku titiro, Ko Waipuna-ā-rangi, Ko Tupu-ā-nuku, Ko Tupu-ā-rangi e pīataata mai ana, hei tohu i te whakapeto ngoi, te mahi tahi o te whānau e. Ko koe tērā Ururangi e tohu nei i ngā hau e kōrure nei kia tupu matomato ai ngā hua mō te iwi e. Waiwai ana ōku kamo i te tirohanga atu ki a koe e Hiwa-i-te-rangi, ka tuku atu ko aku koroungou ki a koe, kia hua ai ko ngā putanga o tāku e wawatatia nei. Ka kite ai au i te ātaahua rirerire o Waitī, o Waitā e tāwharau nei i ngā hua o te oranga tinana, e kanapa ai ko ngā kōkūhanga o te kaupapa nei. Ka tūngou te rae ki a koe Pohutukawa, ā, ka hoki mahara ki te hunga ka whetūrangitia ki tō uma.

Ka titiro whakarunga ki ngā whetū ki te rangi, ka whakaute atu ki ngā mana o runga. Ka tungou atu ki te wāhi ngaro kia heke iho mai ngā tauwhirotanga ki runga i ngā whānau me ngā tamariki e noho rawakore ana i raro i ngā taumahatanga o te wā. Ka whakaaro nuitia ngā rautitapu kei ngā marae maha e takoto tiraha ana, moe mai koutou. Ka huri ki ngā kanohi ora e hīkoi tonu nei i te mata o te whenua, takahia tonutia tō takahi kia whakamana ai ngā whānau me ngā tamariki. Mate atu he tētēkura, ara mai anō he tētēkura.

Tuwhera mai tēnei ripoata kia mārama ai ki ngā taumahatanga kei runga i ngā whānau rawakore me te taumaha hoki ki te whakatupu i a rātou tamariki. Kua pōhara ngā whānau, heoi nā ngā hua nui o Ngā Tini Whetū kua kitea he huarahi tīmatanga kia whaihua ai kia whairawa ngā uri whakaheke. Ehara tēnei i te raru noa mō tētahi tamaiti, e hawa e hawa. He raru nui tēnei mā te whānau, me whakapakari ai te whānau kia pakari hoki ai ngā tamariki. Ka tapaina te ingoa E Tipu, E Rea ki tēnei ripoata, kei reira te oranga kia tupu matomato ai te tamaiti i roto i tōna tuakiri, i roto hoki i tōna ake ahurea hei oranga mō tōna whānau. Nau mai, piki mai ki ngā rangahau kua whārikihia i mua i tō aro.

Kāti rā i konei. Tēna koutou katoa.

E Tipu, E Rea

Ngā Tini Whetū: The Collateral Change for Reducing Child Poverty Report

Author: Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency

© 2022 Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency

To cite this report: Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency. (2022). E Tipu E Rea. Ngā Tini Whetū: The Collateral Change for Reducing Child Poverty Report. WOCA

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. Any unauthorised copy, reprint or use of this material is prohibited. No part of this content may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system without express written permission from Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency.

ISBN 978-1-99-116951-8

November 2022

CONTENTS

2	Foreword
5	Preface
6	Introduction
7	Key Recommendations
10	Section One: Child Poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand
14	Section Two: Strategies for Whānau Wellbeing
15	Cross-Sectoral Approaches and Ngā Tini Whetū
16	The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy
20	Section Three: The Whānau Ora Approach to Reducing Child Poverty
22	The Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot
23	Ngā Tini Whetū Models of Transformation
24	Te Kāhui o Matariki - Ngā Tini Whetū Logic Model
26	Te Hīnātore
28	Whāia Te Ara Whetū
29	Reporting Mechanisms
30	Section Four: Levers of Change
31	Holistic, Wrap-around Support for Whānau
32	Whakawhanaungatanga
33	Whakapapa and Identity
34	Trauma-informed and Healing Focused
35	Te Kete Oranga
38	Section Five: Insights as a Result of the Levers of Change
39	Snapshot of Te Kete Oranga Spend Across Ngā Tini Whetū Outcome Domains
40	Debt Reduction and Financial Resilience
42	Housing
44	Employment and Education
45	Transport
46	Building Business Development Capability
47	Key Data Trends and Insights
49	The Impacts of COVID-19
50	Conclusion
50	Looking Ahead
52	References
54	Appendices
54	Appendix 1: Levels of Reporting
60	Appendix 2: Reducing Child Poverty, Emerging Themes
62	Appendix 3: The Eco-System for Government Funding
63	Appendix 4: Ngā Tini Whetū Outcomes and Indicators

FOREWORD

The Ngā Tini Whetū pilot undertaken by the Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency has at the heart lowering the curve of child poverty in Aotearoa. Subsequently Ngā Tini Whetū has reinforced the need for collaboration with other influential agencies for this to become a reality. And more importantly, have the necessary impact on this very critical area of concern in Aotearoa, child poverty.

This report outlines the need for all of us to come together and collaborate as one entity to effectively lower the disheartening statistics that exist in our communities, focussing on immediate and progressive results. This is our moment to take, and actively make a positive difference for the betterment of our tamariki.

Ngā Tini Whetū was funded through cross-sectoral collaboration, involving government agencies, but implemented through a kaupapa Māori, whānau-centric, holistic approach. It aligns with the desired outcomes for whānau for ACC, Oranga Tamariki and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's (DPMC) child poverty strategies.

The DPMC took a role with us to look at business modelling of integrated funding, with the focus being a strategy in which we can address achieving our collective results in this sector.

The learnings from this report extend beyond the immediate outcomes, and the success of this approach should be applied to other complex and enduring challenges faced by whānau across the motu. We know whānau thrive when they have the right support.

There is an overdue need to make solutions for our future generations so they feel enveloped in an overarching structure of security, comfort and confidence, that we, collectively, can and should provide.



Awerangi Tamihere
COO, Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency





PREFACE

Ngā Tini Whetū exemplifies the ongoing success of Māori-led, kaupapa Māori, whānau-centered and wraparound approaches in supporting whānau Māori into spaces of mana motuhake. Through engaging multiple levers of change, the programme achieved a multitude of diverse and far-reaching outcomes. The cross-sectoral funding that devolved resource from multiple agencies to the Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency (WOCA) allowed the partners to use the pūtea in ways that work best to support whānau to flourish.

As a research team it has been a privilege to read the stories of change for whānau, the incredible journeys they have been on, and moemoeā they have achieved. Both whānau and Kaiārahi voices throughout the reporting have provided us with invaluable insights into the inspiring work and transformation that Ngā Tini Whetū supports. There were hundreds of whānau stories we wish we could have included, but we have tried to provide a snapshot of the mahi happening on the ground, and throughout the WOCA network.

We hope this report and its rich insights provides the reader with a window into the world of Ngā Tini Whetū and the incredible work that whānau, Kaiārahi, partners, collectives and WOCA have undertaken over the last two years, in very difficult circumstances. The impact of the collateral change that has rippled throughout communities as a result of Ngā Tini Whetū cannot be overstated. Although reducing child poverty was not a key focus of the kaupapa, as a result of its kaupapa Māori and whānau-centered approach, Ngā Tini Whetū has contributed to reduction of poverty and the increase of material, physical and spiritual wellbeing for whānau across the motu.

Mauri Ora!



Hector Kaiwai
Director - Wai Rangahau

INTRODUCTION

E Tipu E Rea, highlights the insights of Ngā Tini Whetū, which is the WOCA response to the DPMC child poverty reduction and child and youth wellbeing strategy programmes. The aims of these programmes is to improve the wellbeing of all New Zealand children and young people, with a particular focus on those from low-income households. The DPMC provides significant financial and policy support to these programmes, including through the Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group.

The Ngā Tini Whetū pilot was launched in 2019 in seven regions across Te Ika-a-Māui (North Island of Aotearoa New Zealand). This pilot has demonstrated how a whānau-centered, locally-led, and ground up approach was able to contribute to sustained reductions in child poverty and improvements to tamariki wellbeing across the motu. That this was achieved in the midst of the uncertainties and disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic is a further indication of the strength and flexibility of the Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa.

Ngā Tini Whetū was funded through three Government Agencies - Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), Oranga Tamariki and Te Puni Kōkiri who integrated funding for the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot. The collective investment across agencies meant that agencies were able to work together in new ways to achieve their goals. The success of the initiative was also due to a number of other factors including the effective use of data, the strength of relationships, and the ability to work in a way that is whānau-centered and focused on achieving outcomes.

This report first outlines the current state of child poverty within Aotearoa. The DPMC's Child and Youth Wellbeing is then discussed, providing the contextual basis for how Ngā Tini Whetū has been designed and funded through a cross-sectoral and devolved approach. The logic model and models of transformation underpinning Ngā Tini Whetū will then be reviewed, providing an in-depth understanding of the drivers and mātauranga that provide the foundations to the kaupapa. The levers of change that were utilised throughout the Pilot will then be outlined, primarily that of Te Kete Oranga, highlighting the key elements and activities that made this Pilot successful in reducing child poverty, and increasing the wellbeing of whānau and their tamariki. This report concludes that Ngā Tini Whetū provides a model for future cross-sectoral collaborations in addressing and funding solutions to complex social issues.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

This report recommends the:

- DPMC note that Ngā Tini Whetū pilot identified the following as the key levers of change (or success factors) in reducing child poverty and achieving improved wellbeing for whānau and tamariki:
 - Cross-sectoral approaches - Ngā Tini Whetū was made possible by the effective collaboration between a number of agencies (i.e. Te Puni Kōkiri, ACC and Oranga Tamariki). This cross-sectoral approach meant that agencies were able to pool resources and expertise to achieve their goals.
 - Holistic, wrap-around support for whānau - Ngā Tini Whetū utilised a holistic, wrap-around approach to supporting whānau. This meant that whānau received support that was tailored to their individual needs and aspirations.
 - Whakawhanaungatanga (building whānau trust and confidence) - A key success factor of Ngā Tini Whetū was the focus on building whānau trust and confidence. This was achieved through a number of initiatives such as the development of relationships with whānau, providing culturally-appropriate support, and using a strength-based approach.
 - Whakapapa (genealogy) and identity - The focus on whakapapa and identity was also a key success factor of Ngā Tini Whetū. This allowed whānau to reconnect with their culture and heritage, which in turn led to improved wellbeing.
 - Being trauma-informed and healing focused - Ngā Tini Whetū was also successful due to the focus on being trauma-informed and healing focused. This meant that whānau received support that took into account their prior experiences of trauma and worked to address these issues.
 - Direct funding (i.e. Te Kete Oranga) - Through Te Kete Oranga, Ngā Tini Whetū was able to provide direct funding to whānau. This allowed them to access the services and support that they needed, when they needed it.
- DPMC note that Ngā Tini Whetū pilot achieved the following key results in the following five areas:
 - Housing - This included supporting whānau to access safe and secure housing, as well as providing assistance with things like first home ownership and building whānau homes on whānau whenua.
 - Transport - This included helping whānau with driver's licenses and transport costs (registration, WOF, baby seats), as well as access to safe and reliable transport options for those in employment or education.
 - Building Business Development Capability - This included supporting whānau to develop their business skills and knowledge, as well as assisting with things like business planning and business costs (equipment, software).
 - Employment/Education - This included helping whānau to access employment and education opportunities, as well as providing support with things like job search, interview skills, and course costs.
 - Debt Reduction and Financial Resilience - This included assisting whānau with things like budgeting, money management, and reducing debt. It also included supporting whānau to build their financial resilience through initiatives such as the development of savings goals.

- DPMC should continue its leadership role in supporting the implementation of, and resourcing a paradigm shift in how the social sector is funded. This should include prioritising the devolution of resources to kaupapa Māori, wraparound and whānau-centered approaches and kaupapa at the community and whānau-level, utilising Ngā Tini Whetū as a blueprint for how this can take place. This report has shown that this approach is effective in addressing child poverty and improving wellbeing.
- DPMC should provide resources for workforce development, including more funding and training for Whānau Ora Navigators (Kaiārahi). This will enable Ngā Tini Whetū to reach more whānau and have a greater impact in reducing child poverty.
- DPMC works with the WOCA and resources the development of a collective impact/approach to tackling child poverty and improving wellbeing outcomes. This should include working with government agencies in the development of a shared measurement system that builds on the learnings from Ngā Tini Whetū and incorporates other relevant indicators (e.g. The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy) to provide a more holistic view of progress.
- DPMC should resource more research to be undertaken on the impact of Ngā Tini Whetū. This should include resourcing the development of a kaupapa Māori evidence base that captures the impact of Ngā Tini Whetū on whānau and their tamariki. This report has shown that there is a great deal of potential for Ngā Tini Whetū to have a significant impact in reducing child poverty and improving wellbeing outcomes.
- DPMC recognises Ngā Tini Whetū as an exemplar for future cross-sectoral collaborations in addressing and funding solutions to complex social issues. This report has shown that Ngā Tini Whetū provides a model for how resources can be devolved to kaupapa Māori, wraparound and whānau-centered approaches in order to address child poverty and improve wellbeing outcomes.
- DPMC works with the WOCA to continue to develop, refine and align child poverty and wellbeing metrics and measures so that the true 'collective' picture of impact and outcomes can be captured and reported.



SECTION ONE:

CHILD POVERTY IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND



For much of Aotearoa New Zealand's history, we have prided ourselves on being 'a great place to raise children'. However, for parts of society, this is not the case. UNICEF defines child poverty as children being deprived of the material, spiritual and emotional resources needed to survive, develop and thrive (UNICEF, 2020). Over the last three decades, persistently high levels of child poverty have become embedded in our communities, despite numerous policy initiatives intended to address this problem. Children have borne the brunt of widening income inequality over this period. Many children in Aotearoa New Zealand are experiencing hardship, living without the basic necessities required to thrive in their communities.

The latest figures on child poverty, taken from the 2020-21 period until June 2021, show the following:

- **Approx. 322,900 children (28.1%)** were living in after-housing-costs income poverty, on the 60% of equivalised household median, moving-line measure (CPAG, 2022).
- **Approx. 236,900 children (20.6%)** were living in income poverty, on the related 50% measure (CPAG, 2022).
- **Approx. 150,400 children (13.1%)** were living in severe income poverty, on the 40% or less measure (CPAG, 2022).

In addition to these income-based poverty measures, Stats New Zealand (Stats NZ) also measures material hardship (Stats NZ, n.a.). This measure is based upon the DEP-17 material hardship index, which assesses whether families are experiencing deprivation based on 17 categories, such as being unable to afford doctors' visits, buy fresh fruit and vegetables, or pay utility bills on time. A household unable to afford 6 or more of these categories is regarded as being in material hardship, 9 or more is regarded as severe material hardship.

From the Household Economic Survey 2019-2020:

- 11% of children (125,700) live in households that experienced material hardship. 5% (50,000) live in households that experienced severe material hardship (Stats NZ, 2022a).
- Of the children experiencing material hardship, 84.5% live in households that could not pay an unexpected \$500 bill without borrowing (Stats NZ, 2022a).
- 2 in 5 of children experiencing material hardship were in households that had to put up with feeling cold due to being unable to afford the cost of heating (Stats NZ, 2022a).
- 1 in 5 children in rental dwellings live in material hardship and they accounted for 4 in 5 of the overall number (Stats NZ, 2022a).
- 1 in 5 children in Aotearoa lived in households where food ran out sometimes (15.6%) or often (4.3%) due to lack of money (Child Poverty Monitor, 2021).

Child poverty has a disproportionate impact on Māori and Pasifika families. The long-term impacts of colonisation, forced land alienation, immigration discrimination and low-waged labour have exacerbated the difficulties that these two ethnic groups encounter. In addition, the economic and welfare reforms of the 1980s and 1990s, which had a dramatic impact on rates of child poverty in Aotearoa, disproportionately affected Māori and Pasifika communities (Boston, 2014). The entrenchment of intergenerational poverty within specific ethnic groups partially explains a degree of tolerance within society of high rates of child poverty, in that the problem has been framed by some sections of society as a reflection of cultural failings, rather than as an issue that requires societal solutions (Boston, 2014).

This inequity is demonstrated by the following statistics from the year ending June 2021:

- 1 in 5 Māori children (20.2% or 60,300 children) live in households experiencing material hardship (CPAG, 2022).
- 1 in 4 Pasifika children (24% or 34,000 children) live in households experiencing material hardship (CPAG, 2022).
- 11% of tamariki Māori and 14% of Pasifika children experience severe material hardship (CPAG, 2022).
- 50% of children experiencing severe material hardship are Māori, despite only a quarter of all children being Māori (New Zealand Child and Youth Epidemiology Service, 2021).

The negative social, economic, educational and health consequences of persistent, intergenerational levels of poverty are well-documented. For example, in Aotearoa New Zealand:

- Children under 15 from the highest deprivation areas are more than twice as likely to be hospitalised as those from communities with the lowest deprivation (CPAG, 2020).
- Mortality for children under 15 from communities with the highest deprivation is three times as high as for their peers in low deprivation communities (CPAG, 2020).
- High school students in the most deprived areas have four times the suicide rate of those in least deprived areas (CPAG, 2021a).

The Ministry of Social Development's (MSD) Rapid Evidence Review for the Welfare Expert Advisory Group concluded that: "Children and adolescents who experience poverty have worse cognitive, social, behavioural and health outcomes, in part because they have lower family incomes and not only because having a lower family income is correlated with other household and parental characteristics" (Ministry of Social Development, 2018, p. 1).



Apart from these immediate impacts, there is also evidence showing that childhood poverty causes negative outcomes throughout the lifespan. For example, data from the longitudinal Dunedin Study shows that compared with those from high socioeconomic status backgrounds, adults who had grown up in low socioeconomic status families had poorer cardiovascular health, poorer dental health and higher rates of substance abuse (Poulton et al., 2002). Boston (2014), describes child poverty as having “a long reach ... It can fundamentally affect a person’s whole life-course, contributing to life-long ill-health, limited employment prospects, insecure housing and semi-permanent poverty” (p. 972).

Therefore, if we are to avoid the negative downstream consequences for the current generation of children growing up in poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand, then the issue must be urgently addressed. Child poverty is an example of a “wicked” problem: wicked problems are complex, multifaceted, and enduring. They have multiple drivers, are hard to describe and don’t have one right answer. Many stakeholders are involved with different viewpoints, norms, and priorities (Carne, Rees, Paton, & Fanslow, 2019). The solutions lie in developing cross-sectoral approaches and services that are flexible and holistic enough to encompass the multiple levers which must be engaged in order to effect change, and which are supported to deliver long-term and sustainable results.



SECTION TWO: STRATEGIES FOR WHĀNAU WELLBEING



CROSS-SECTORAL APPROACHES AND NGĀ TINI WHETŪ

Ngā Tini Whetū is the result of efforts to create a paradigm shift across the social services sector to increase whānau wellbeing and allow whānau and communities to thrive. The programme is significant as it is a step towards the devolution of Government resources to communities. It is also significant as a first for:

- Oranga Tamariki and ACC to work alongside Te Puni Kōkiri and WOCA to achieve outcomes for whānau.
- The transfer of Oranga Tamariki and ACC funding to Vote Māori Development to improve the well-being of whānau.

The development of this programme sees a system change at three levels as a result of WOCA managing this project. These are:

1. The public sector systemic change to achieve enduring outcomes for vulnerable whānau Māori who would normally be on a trajectory towards state intervention.
2. Managing public vote through a different business model, i.e. community led.
3. Whānau Ora commissioning to support whānau to achieve their outcomes.

Ngā Tini Whetū initially began in 2017 as a small Pilot that was delivered by a select group of WOCA partners over a two year period. The Pilot was supported by an evaluation which showed the initiative had contributed to positive outcomes for its rangatahi participants

The results of this initial Pilot, coupled with the political advocacy and leadership of John and Awerangi Tamihere in response to the Māori-led inquiry into Oranga Tamariki, formed part of the discussions between the then Minister for Children, Tracey Martin, the then Associate Minister for Māori Development and ACC, Willie Jackson, and WOCA CEO John Tamihere in late 2019. These discussions led to negotiations between Oranga Tamariki and WOCA and provided the foundations for Ngā Tini Whetū in its current form.

To help facilitate relationships between WOCA and Oranga Tamariki, the Minister for Children engaged with Geoff Short, then Executive Director for Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group within the DPMC. The DPMC also helped lead out and facilitate a Ngā Tini Whetū co-design workshop between WOCA and Oranga Tamariki in March 2020. Geoff Short's eventual shift to Te Puni Kōkiri and continued leadership in this space, would also see the onboarding of Te Puni Kōkiri to the Ngā Tini Whetū initiative in early 2020. Having Te Puni Kōkiri onboard made sense due to their knowledge and experience in Whānau Ora, their established working relationship with WOCA, and the trust that the agencies had built through this relationship.

During this same period, WOCA entered into discussions with ACC executives. As a result of those meetings, Emma Powell, Chief Customer Officer (ACC), took on the role of building the relationship with WOCA. By mid-2020, the Ngā Tini Whetū Governance Leadership Group was established, comprising senior leadership from Te Puni Kōkiri, Oranga Tamariki, ACC and WOCA.

Over the past two years, Ngā Tini Whetū has shown the value of a cross-sectoral approach and a high-trust model where responsibility for funding decisions lies with communities. It serves as a blueprint for a new way of building relationships and reporting outcomes between government agencies and the communities they are supposed to serve. Ngā Tini Whetū is unique in that it recognises that ultimately, the solutions for change must come from within whānau and the community, not from government agencies or outside organisations. Whānau are best placed to identify their own aspirations and goals, and Ngā Tini Whetū is committed to supporting them on this journey.

THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELLBEING STRATEGY

The DPMC is responsible for leading, advising, stewarding and delivering activities across the public sector, as well as providing specific advice and support to the Governor-General, Prime Minister and portfolio Ministers. The DPMC is one of three central agencies in New Zealand (alongside the Treasury and the State Services Commission), that plays a key role in shaping and progressing emerging high-priority issues. The department is committed to advancing an ambitious, resilient and well-governed Aotearoa New Zealand, and has three core roles, which help it deliver on this purpose: supporting informed decision making; supporting well-conducted government; and leading an effective, strategically focused National Security System. In undertaking each of these roles, DPMC is also committed to meeting its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

In 2018, the Government launched an ambitious plan to improve child wellbeing and address poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (DPMC, 2018). The Strategy has established a cross-sectoral approach to addressing Child and Youth Wellbeing, replacing previous fragmented and siloed approaches, encouraging collaboration between stakeholders and ensuring children and young people are placed at the centre of policy development. The Strategy is led by The Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group, which sits within the DPMC. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern is the lead Minister for Child Poverty Reduction.

The Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group's position within the DPMC signalled the Government's clear intention to make the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy a priority at the highest levels of government and to ensure a coordinated response across all the agencies and organisations whose policies and actions most impact children. Efforts to successfully address child poverty depend upon transformations in the way agencies work together and fund policy implementation and delivery. This transformational work is overseen by the Social Wellbeing Board, the Strategy's governance group. Made up of social sector chief executives, with an independent chair, it takes a collective approach to policy, implementation and delivery across the social sector. The Social Wellbeing Board is overseeing a broader work programme across the social sector to develop a more strategic and coordinated approach to commissioning, contracting and funding non-governmental organisations, including iwi and Māori organisations. These are complex, interrelated issues that cannot be addressed by any single agency. They are also system enablers - issues that are broader than the scope of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, but vitally important for its success (DPMC, 2018).

The Strategy provides a framework for government agencies to work together to produce six key outcomes for children:

1. Children and young people are loved, safe and nurtured
2. Children and young people have what they need
3. Children and young people are healthy and happy
4. Children and young people are learning and developing
5. Children and young people are accepted, respected and connected
6. Children and young people are involved and empowered

Within the Strategy, the Ngā Tini Whetū programme sits as an action area under Outcome 1: Children are loved, safe and nurtured. However, as will be demonstrated below, Ngā Tini Whetū has significance and value across all six outcomes of the Strategy, including in addressing child poverty. Reducing child poverty and mitigating the impacts of poverty and socio-economic disadvantage is identified as one of the main priority areas for the Strategy Framework. Actions specifically aimed at reducing Child Poverty sit within Outcome 2: Children and young people have what they need. The Strategy Framework breaks this down into several specific outcomes for children and young people:

- they and their parents or caregivers have a good standard of material wellbeing
- they have regular access to nutritious food
- they live in stable housing that is affordable, warm and dry
- their parents or caregivers have the skills and support they need to access quality employment

These outcomes are supported by a Programme of Action focusing on the following areas:

- Improve earnings and employment
- Create a fairer and more equitable welfare system
- Improve housing affordability, quality and security
- Help families with the cost of essentials



The Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018 requires the government of the day to set long-term (10-year) and intermediate (three-year) targets on a set of child poverty measures against which they must report annually. The data from the first three year review period ending July 2021 is now available and indicates that some progress is being made towards the aim of reducing child poverty, with two out of the three poverty reduction targets being met (Stats NZ, 2022b; Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, 2022).

However, progress towards the targets has not been equitable. While the targets have been met for the general population, this is not the case for Māori and Pasifika children. Stats NZ (2022a) notes that figures for Māori children remain relatively unchanged compared to the previous year, although there was a decrease in one of the measures for Pasifika children.

This data indicates that the current programme of action is not reaching tamariki and rangatahi Māori. This is recognised by the recent Review of the Children and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, which notes that “significant disparities persist for many groups, including Māori, Pacific, Rainbow and children and young people impacted by disability” (DPMC, 2022, p. 8). The Review recognises that there is a need to improve equity of outcomes by addressing the barriers to the Strategy’s responsiveness to tamariki and rangatahi Māori and other groups (DPMC, 2022).

The Review further highlights the importance of whānau-centred, community led approaches to the overall implementation of the Strategy (DPMC, 2022). It recommends that the focus of governance move away from central government to whānau and communities to help achieve the Strategy’s outcomes (The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022). The Review also calls for more intentional steps to embed Te Ao Māori concepts of wellbeing into the Strategy through working with Māori/iwi. Overall, the Review calls for more investment in approaches and services that work with whānau to build on their strengths, rather than crisis-driven responses:

“Much of our investment is focussed on downstream issues and responding to crisis, rather than prevention, strengthening and healing. There is significant latent potential in rebalancing our efforts and activating the ‘ecology’ around whānau where they live their lives to create the conditions for wellbeing” (The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022, p. 5).

For this ‘rebalancing’ to occur, there is a need to create a shift in how agencies operate, to establish a new status quo and “create the authorising environment and enabling conditions for government to work in fundamentally different ways with whānau, Iwi and communities to activate fit-for-purpose wellbeing ecologies in place” (The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022, p. 9).



SECTION THREE:
**THE WHĀNAU ORA APPROACH
TO REDUCING CHILD POVERTY**



Large-scale social change requires broad cross-sector coordination to create a cohesive response to complex needs. It is within this context that Whānau Ora provides an alternative approach. Whānau Ora is a culturally grounded evidence-based model and approach that incorporates Māori views of health and well-being into service design principles and delivery. It is a whānau-centred, locally-led and centrally enabled system. The Whānau Ora approach seeks to empower whānau so that they can take control of their own lives and make positive changes. WOCA is responsible for commissioning Whānau Ora services and providers across Te Ika-a-Māui. These services are provided by Whānau Ora Navigators (Kaiārahi), who work with whānau to identify their strengths and aspirations, and connect them with the services and support that they need. The aim of Whānau Ora, and of the Ngā Tini Whetū programme within it, is to enable whānau to flourish.

In understanding the Whānau Ora approach to reducing child poverty, the Pā Harakeke model below (Figure 1) provides a visualisation of a kaupapa Māori view of tamariki care and wellbeing (Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency, 2021). Ensuring tamariki are happy, healthy and thriving is inherent to a kaupapa Māori and Whānau Ora approach as the entire whānau unit is supported into an aspirational space. In Whānau Ora's whānau-centered approach, tamariki sit at the centre, surrounded by their wider whānau, and wrapped around by their whakapapa. The model emphasises the importance of tamariki being connected to their whānau, whakapapa and whenua, as well as the support systems of whanaungatanga and whāngai. Vice versa, the wellbeing of each aspect of the Pā Harakeke ecosystem, relies on the wellness of the others. Working in this way means the entire Pā Harakeke ecosystem is considered, resulting in a holistic, sustainable, and community-led approach to child poverty reduction.

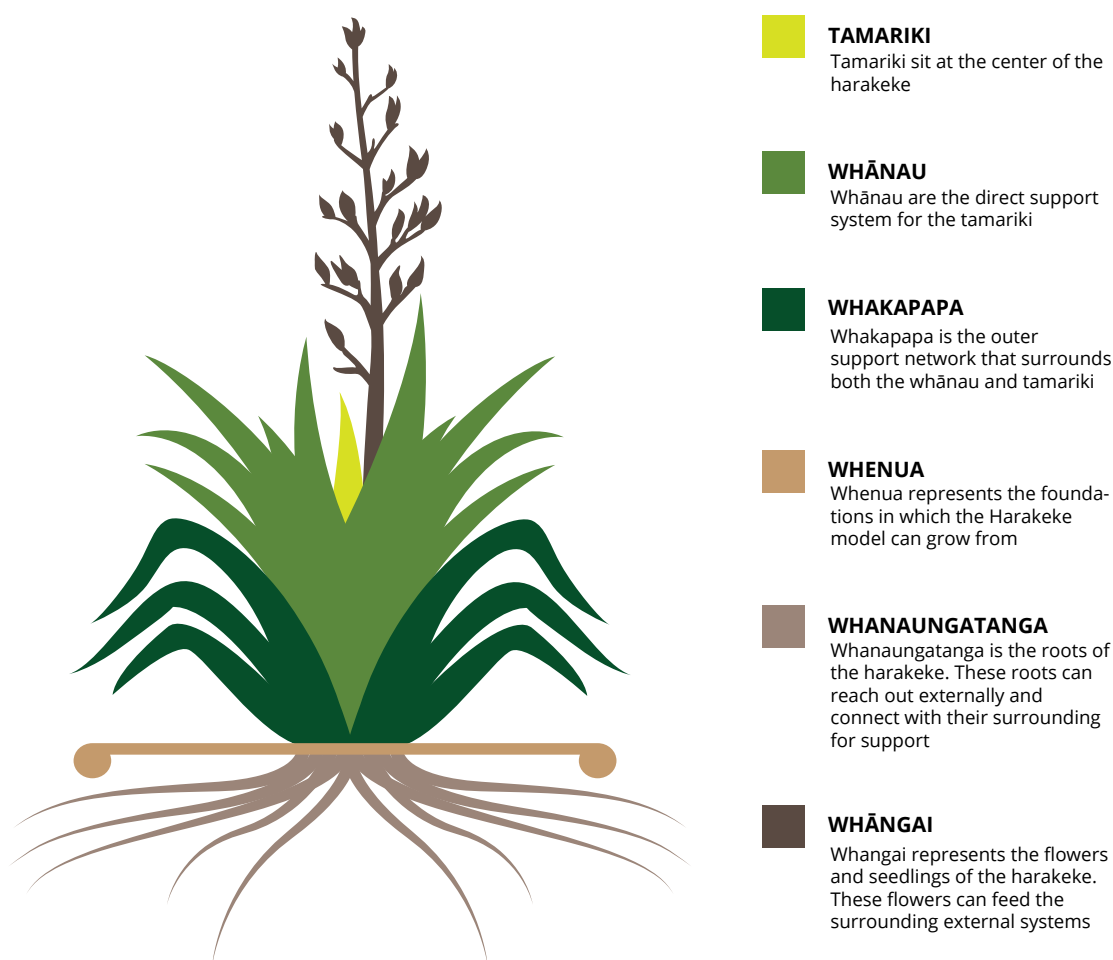


Figure 1: Pā Harakeke Model from Ko Te Wā Whakawhiti, It's Time for Change (Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency, p. 44)

THE NGĀ TINĪ WHETŪ PILOT

The Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot has shown that Whānau Ora approaches are effective in supporting whānau to address poverty-related issues. Ngā Tini Whetū is a whānau-centered, strengths-based and locally-led approach to supporting whānau to achieve their aspirations. Through Ngā Tini Whetū, the six outcomes of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy have been achieved by whānau. Whānau pursued many, diverse moemoeā through Ngā Tini Whetū that contributed to creating safe, loving homes for their tamariki. Many whānau demonstrated a willingness to engage in activities and seek support that contribute to the wellbeing of their tamariki, such as counselling and parenting programmes, and through their Ngā Tini Whetū journey, they have experienced beneficial results. These actions have also positioned whānau to be more financially resilient and reduce the danger of slipping back into poverty and crisis.

Many whānau were motivated by the desire to break intergenerational cycles of poverty and debt in order to create financial independence for their tamariki and mokopuna, ensuring they have what they need to thrive. Whānau spoke of their dreams to create a secure future for their tamariki:

“My dream is to have financial stability to build a home on our Papakainga in 10 years, so that my babies don't have to worry about housing in their time” (Whānau, Ngā Waihua o Paerangi)

Wraparound approaches were undertaken by whānau in Ngā Tini Whetū to reach a place of financial independence and material wellbeing in conjunction with emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Kaiārahi worked with whānau across multiple kaupapa to develop strategies for reaching their financial goals:

Whānau lifestyle choices are enhancing where they are engaging in employment opportunities and striving towards getting better-paid positions and engaging in budgeting support services. Whānau are learning to invest in their future through KiwiSaver, savings, and investments and connecting with those services to develop their knowledge. Whānau are also learning the importance of getting insurance and confidently approaching dealerships and services to ensure that they are receiving the supports they need to better their living situations. Whānau are receiving the benefits of having telecommunications and internet resources in the home and developing their knowledge and skills in computing and electronics through education. (Kaiārahi, Toa Rangatira Te Roopu Āwhina)

Ngā Tini Whetū has not just provided whānau with the support and resources to achieve goals of reducing poverty within their whare, but whānau have been equipped with skills that leave them well placed to continue to make progress and meet challenges in the future. The significance of the Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa lies not just in the specific successes that each whānau has been able to achieve, but in the opportunity it has provided for whānau to see themselves and their future in a different light. This is key to creating sustainable change:

It's not just about getting a driver's licence or paying off debt, it's the forward planning beyond that and the capability of whānau to build their futures. From uncertainty and fear of the unknown, to confidence in themselves and being able to build on that towards better futures. I think that is how NTW is different. (Kaiārahi, He Iwi Kotahi Tatou Trust)

In the recent reviews of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, calls have been made for prioritising kaupapa that will action the reduction of child poverty and improve tamariki wellbeing through wraparound, whānau-centered, community approaches, that are built from the ground up and create an ecosystem of care, support and solutions (DPMC, 2022; The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022). Through the key activities and moemoeā pursued through Ngā Tini Whetū, it is clear that Whānau Ora and their Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa are an established kaupapa that already meet, and exceed, these needs. They support, and are led by, whānau aspirations at the local level, ensuring that the whānau ecosystem of tamariki, parents and caregivers, whakapapa, whenua and whanaungatanga are thriving.

The following are the kaupapa Māori logic models and theories of change that underpinned the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot.

NGĀ TINI WHETŪ MODELS OF TRANSFORMATION

Te Kāhui o Matariki - Ngā Tini Whetū Logic Model

WOCA designed a logic model that aligns to the kaupapa Māori celestial concepts Ngā Tini Whetū and Matariki. These concepts have at the heart a circular system of inter-connecting logic model elements rather than a traditional linear model (see Figure 2).

To report against whānau progress, the total case for change must identify the spectrum of enablers of change for Ngā Tini Whetū. The spectrum being from inputs through to impact. It is within this context that WOCA developed a kaupapa Māori logic model framework that informed the development of the Ngā Tini Whetū logic model - Te Kāhui o Matariki.

Te Kāhui o Matariki is the result of a three step progression. The first step was a Western logic model that summarised logic models drawn up by the Collectives. The second step aligned high level outcomes to Te Hīnātore (see Figure 3). The third step reflects the kaupapa Māori world view. Each of the stars is a compass point where whānau acquire more skills and processes on their journey to whānau with mana.



NGĀ TINI WHETŪ TE KĀHUI O MATARIKI

Ngā Tini Whetū
Multiple Stars That Light Up The Sky



PŌHUTUKAWA - REFLECTION

When we reflect on those who have gone, this reminds us its time for our own reflection. A time to reflect on our wellbeing. Within Ngā Tini Whetū, reflection is about understanding where we are at on our journey of Mauri Noho to Mauri Oho. Reflecting on the journey is the first step towards Ngā Tini Whetū.



WAITĀ - INPUTS

The food-basket from which we support and invest into our whānau. Symbolised by the inputs of Ngā Tini Whetū; Kaimahi, Partners, Collectives and the Te Kete Oranga resource. Supporting kaimahi, partners, collectives and the management of Te Kete Oranga is the Whānau Ora Commissioning backbone teams – Data & Performance, Research, Operations, Relationship Management, Insights and Workforce Development – resources to support for our Whānau Ora partners & collectives.



WAITĀ - PARTICIPANTS

The moana is likened to the ora, the ora that envelops our whānau. The different currents of the moana represent the different stages of our ora, moving from a state of Mauri Noho to Mauri Oho. Waitā therefore represents those we support, the 800 whānau enrolled in this pilot across Te Ika-a-Māui. Our whānau are on different stages of their wellbeing journey. Their wellbeing journey is represented by the four dimensional framework (Te Hīnātoro) which discusses the emergence of whānau with mana through the duration of this pilot



TUPUARANGI - ACTIVITIES LED BY WHĀNAU

Mahi-ā-Whānau are activities and engagements whānau choose to do, taking action to pursue their goals as set out in their whānau plans. The nine key aspirational areas, express the different types of activities and engagements whānau have an opportunity to access and pursue. Self-determining what and how they want to succeed. We associate this to growing and supporting our whānau where the sky is the limit, the fruits of their labour will be in abundance as indicated in their action to learn, change and grow.



URURANGI - OUTPUTS

Within the Whānau Ora context the winds represent the winds of change. Which symbolise the outputs achieved as a result of the activities and mahi undertaken by whānau and Kaiārahi. With a range of activities and engagements on offer for whānau to choose, 'choice' becomes a far more meaningful experience where changes in knowledge, attitude, behaviour, circumstance and situation, become a journey for whānau, being prime conditions for whānau to flourish.



Whānau with Mana



WAIPUNA-Ā-RANGI - WHĀNAU ORA PRACTICE

The Whānau Ora practice model within which whānau, partners and collectives operate is symbolised by the rains from which the lands are nourished and our people grow and flourish. Whānau Ora practice is uniquely Māori and grounded on a Māori world view. Tikanga and Kawa guide our practice ensuring we respect differences and act appropriately within context. Whānau Ora operate in accordance to best practice models of care. We practice strengths based and whānau centred approaches ensuring in all we do; its tika, pono and with aroha.

TUPUĀNUKU - ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY KAIĀRAHI

Mahi Tahi are the activities and engagements between whānau and Kaiārahi. Kaiārahi and Whānau Ora partners play an important role collaborating, planning, guiding and empowering whānau to pursue their aspirations. There is dual commitment and responsibility towards making it work best for whānau. We liken this to supporting our whānau from the ground up. Kaiārahi support whānau to plant tipu (goals and aspirations) and nurture them to grow, ready for whānau to harvest (achievement of outcomes).

HIWA-I-TE-RANGI - OUTCOMES

This is the star associated with granting our wishes and realising our aspirations. This is most relevant to outcomes. The six Whānau Ora outcome domains, represent a comprehensive response and mapping guide, to all and every type of outcome whānau wish to pursue:

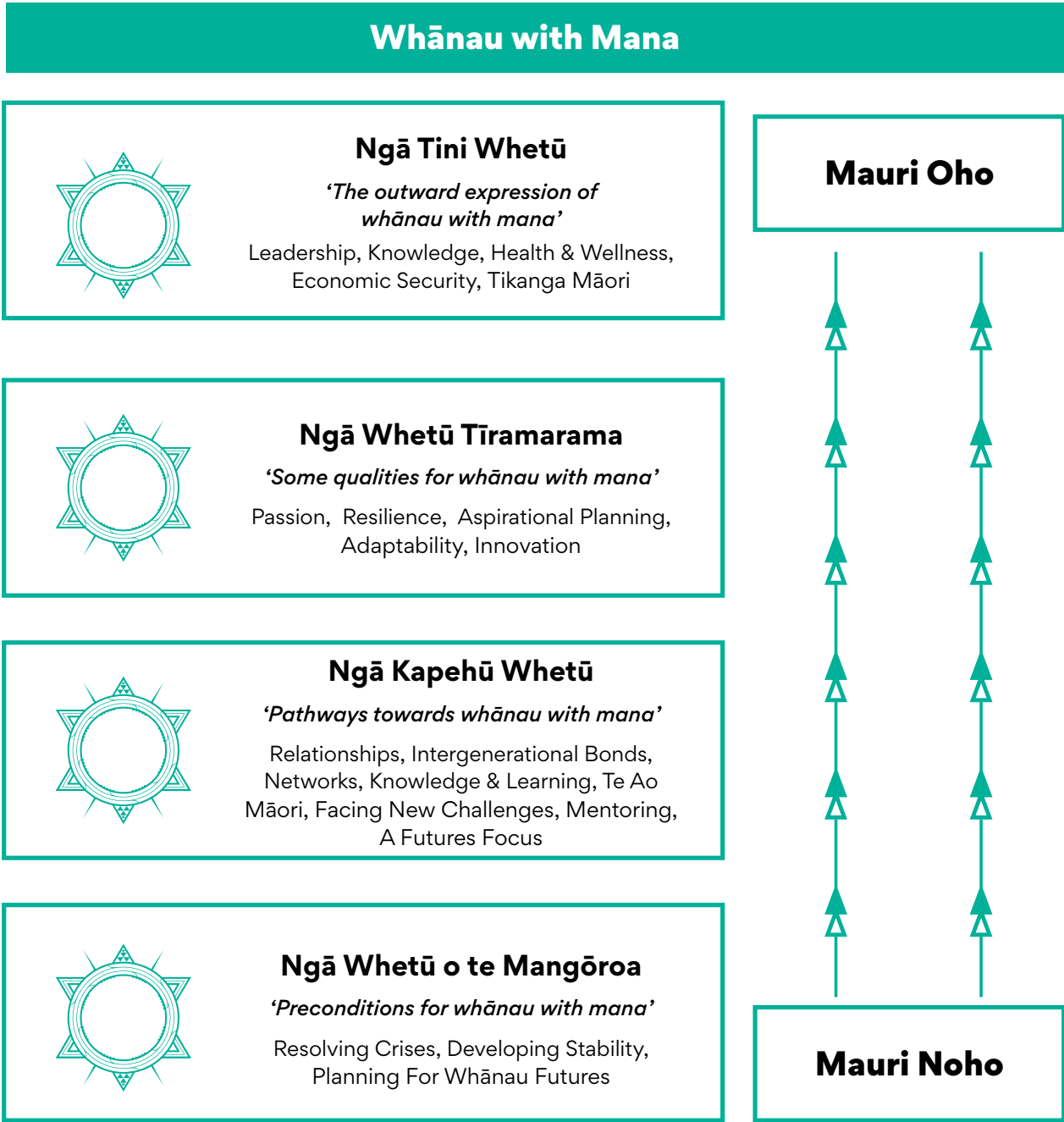
- Whānau are knowledgeable and well informed
- Whānau are healthy
- Whānau actively participate in communities
- Whānau are engaged in Te Ao Māori
- Whānau enjoy high standards of living
- Whānau relationships are rewarding and empowering

MATARIKI - IMPACT

Signifies reflection, hope, our connection to the environment and the gathering of people. Matariki is also connected to the health and wellbeing of people.

Matariki represents the ultimate impact. The effect of all elements weaving together that influence the experiences and success our whānau will have. Whānau become the multiple stars that light up the sky, examples of excellence evidenced by their accomplishments in personal, whānau and generational change. Ngā Tini Whetū is the life changing impact for all whānau transformed – the outward expression of Whānau with Mana!

TE HĪNĀTORE



Underpinning Ngā Tini Whetū is the exercise of forward planning so that future generations might start life in a favourable position, and the positive influence of the whānau will be felt beyond the whānau itself. Whānau with mana is the focus. In keeping with the celestial theme, we have called this phase of whānau achievement, Te Hīnātore – illuminated beams that bring light to the journey.

It is important to know the aspects of Te Ao Māori that influence the health and wellbeing of whānau. In Figure 3, mauri (life force or life principle) is a critical determinant of good health so whānau who have a good understanding of that will promote mauri ora. As whānau journey from mauri noho (languishing) to mauri oho (flourishing) they require support.

Tā Meihana Durie, Pou for WOCA, developed a four dimensional framework for Te Hīnātore (see Figure 3). It encompasses the spirit of Te Hīnātore and the emergence of whānau with mana. The four dimensions are:

- *Ngā Whetū o te Mangōroa - faint stars in the distant milky way*
Resolving crisis, developing stability, planning for future whānau futures
- *Ngā Kāpehu Whetū - navigating by the stars*
Relationships, intergenerational bonds, networks, knowledge and learning, te ao Māori, facing new challenges, mentoring, a futures focus
- *Ngā Whetū Tīramarama - glimmers of light from the stars*
Passion, resilience, aspirational planning, adaptability, innovation
- *Ngā Tini Whetū - stars that light up the sky*
Leadership, knowledge, health and wellness, economic security, tikanga Māori

Te Hīnātore provided a framework for understanding the shifts required for whānau to make long-term, sustainable change. The framework also allowed for whānau progress to be measured and monitored against specific goals and milestones, rather than using a generic 'one size fits all' approach.



WHĀIA TE ARA WHETŪ

Whānau by Oranga Tamariki

Whānau who need intensive and immediate support as they are at risk of being referred to Oranga Tamariki	Aukati Whānau
Whānau who need immediate support to manage their daily life so not to be in a potential position of risk of being referred to Oranga Tamariki	Kaupare Whānau
Whānau who need support so they are able to proactively plan immediate and short term goals for their whānau towards ensuring they are not referred to Oranga Tamariki	Whakangungu Whānau
Whānau who need support so that they are able to proactively manage their generational whānau goals and aspirations which ensure an enduring generational model for whānau to not be in a position to be referred to Oranga Tamariki	Whakamana Whānau

Whānau by ACC

Whānau who are supported to be kaiārahi for promoting and leading injury prevention and healthy lifestyles within their whānau	Kaitārai Hapori
Whānau who are supported to be the kaiārahi for promoting and leading injury prevention and healthy lifestyles for their whānau and community.	Kaiurungi Whānau

Figure 4: Whāia Te Ara Whetū model aligned with ACC and Oranga Tamariki outcomes

In addition to the Te Hīnātore measurement framework, Oranga Tamariki and ACC both provided objectives for Ngā Tini Whetū that aligned with their respective agency priorities. Oranga Tamariki's priority was early intervention programmes so that whānau were engaged and worked with early so they did not come into contact with the Oranga Tamariki system. ACC identified working with whānau so they become the champions for their whānau in injury prevention messages and whānau who become the community champions for injury prevention messages.

The challenge presented to WOCA was how to report against individual agency priorities yet ensure these are aligned to measurement of the total integrated outcomes being achieved for whānau. WOCA therefore developed a baseline measurement programme which shows Oranga Tamariki and ACC outcomes for the 800 whānau on the Ngā Tini Whetū programme (see Figures 4 & 7).

REPORTING MECHANISMS



Figure 5: Multitiered reporting structure for gaining insights and learnings from Ngā Tini Whetū

Through these kaupapa Māori models of transformation, a multi-tiered reporting system (see Figure 5) was established across the WOCA network in order to create rich, first-hand accounts of the insights and outcomes occurring at the ground level through to the governance level (see examples in Appendix 1). Whānau reported and engaged directly with partners, partners provided reporting and feedback to collectives, collectives communicated this back to WOCA, and WOCA has then been able to communicate the multi-tiered insights directly to funders, providing in-depth and mana-enhancing stories of change across the network. This ‘ground up’ reporting approach has highlighted the need to provide appropriate time, creative space and support that our whānau need to build trust, believe in their aspirations, how to plan them, and determine the best way to tell their stories of transformation to Partners, Collectives and WOCA. This authentic process enabled our whānau, Partner and Collective stories to be held with mana and integrity (see Appendix 1).

The examples in Appendix 1 follow reporting from the partner level, through to the collective, regional and WOCA levels. Ngā Tini Whetū is about whānau-centred measurements of progress. It is about telling the story of change, the journeys that whānau make and focuses on their remarkable resilience, innovation, collaboration and achievement. Partners provided rich data of Te Kete Oranga spend, outcomes achieved, whānau voice, Kaiārahi voice, stories of whānau transformation, how whānau have moved across Te Hīnātore and Whāia Te Ara Whetū, goals achieved and activities undertaken. Ngā Tini Whetū collectives collated this to collective-level findings, and WOCA brought this together to create summaries of regional insights and entire Ngā Tini Whetū data shifts, narrative shifts and aspirational areas. As seen in Appendix 1 at the WOCA level, the reporting was analysed to understand the quantitative shifts, the qualitative shifts, and the aspirational areas that whānau undertook across Te-Ika-a-Māui. The narrative, data and aspirational insights provided through the visual reports, as well as written reports, provide deep, detailed and holistic understandings of whānau transformation and how Ngā Tini Whetū contributes to a long-term reduction in child poverty.

The reporting illuminates our kaupapa Māori, wraparound and systems approach in working with whānau. This systems approach allows WOCA to create transformational outcomes with whānau that no other entity could achieve. Whānau are wrapped around with support and resourced in a mana-enhancing fashion, and our style of reporting captures this. Narrative and data insights are drawn up from Kaiārahi, partners and collectives, and in turn influence the entire system of working as learnings are applied through every level of WOCA, and stories of change ripple throughout.

Our reporting mechanism has allowed us to understand how Ngā Tini Whetū has contributed to the long-term reduction of child poverty at the individual whānau level, through to top governance. For example, the first six months of reporting for Ngā Tini Whetū highlighted four main poverty-related issues that were impacting on whānau wellbeing. This included housing insecurity, low incomes and inadequate income support, lack of access to essential services, adverse childhood experiences, and whānau wanting to increase their financial independence and resilience. It should be noted that the focus on poverty was not an explicit goal of Ngā Tini Whetū, but rather an issue that emerged as a result of the reporting process. Using Te Hīnātore as a framework, the research team were able to use the data from the first six months to develop an emerging indicator set of aspirations, behaviours, and circumstances, that Ngā Tini Whetū could use to monitor and track whānau progress (Appendix 2).

SECTION FOUR:

LEVERS OF CHANGE



The Ngā Tini Whetū model at the ground level engages many levers to create sustained and positive change with whānau. As seen within the Levers of Change ecosystem (see Appendix 3), Government and Agency funding that comes through a cross-sectoral approach is utilised on the ground to invest in long term outcomes for whānau. The levers of change at the collective and partner level include: utilising a holistic, wrap-around approach, a focus on whakawhanaungatanga to build trusting relationships, connecting whānau to their whakapapa and identity based in te ao Māori, using a trauma-informed and healing-focussed approach, and utilising Te Kete Oranga as a whānau-centered and strengths based resource. These levers of change not only create the support and environment where whānau can achieve their aspirations, but create a ripple effect of collateral change that lead to broader outcomes such as a sustained reduction in child poverty. Analysing these levers of change provided insights into how Ngā Tini Whetū has contributed to the reduction of child poverty for whānau.

HOLISTIC, WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT FOR WHĀNAU

As the Pā Harakeke Model (Figure 1) demonstrates, Whānau Ora takes a holistic and long-term approach to whānau wellbeing. This approach recognises that tamariki Māori are more likely to experience poverty and disadvantage due to the lasting effects of colonisation and racism. Whānau Ora also recognises that many of the problems that whānau face, such as poor housing and underemployment, are structural in nature and cannot be addressed without changes to government policy. As such, Whānau Ora takes a political advocacy role in addition to its direct service delivery role.

Whānau Ora therefore recognises that child poverty is not simply about lack of money. Whānau may struggle with housing, education, and physical, spiritual and mental health – all of which can lead to financial insecurity. Both Whānau Ora and Ngā Tini Whetū thus take a comprehensive approach that supports whānau in all aspects of their lives. This includes providing access to services such as healthcare, education, and employment. Kaiārahi and kaimahi work to build the capacity of whānau so that they can take control of their own lives and make positive changes for future generations:

Other services often support whānau when they have “fallen off the cliff” which is triage work or putting a plaster on a wound. NTW, however, puts whānau at the top of the cliff where they can see their aspirations and dreams, then supports whānau towards achieving these dreams with the hope of improving whānau outcomes for generations to come. (Kaiārahi, Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Porou)

Rather than a narrow, deficit-based focus upon poverty reduction, Ngā Tini Whetū looks at each whānau in their entirety and helps them to identify what it is they need to transform their lives and move into a space of mana motuhake.

WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA

Whakawhanaungatanga is the process of creating, nourishing and maintaining connections and relationships. This process has been a key lever of change on the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot as trusting, reciprocal, and respect-based relationships between whānau and Kaiārahi provided a source of strength, wellbeing, guidance and support for whānau on their journeys. Kaiārahi have a specific, unique and specialised skill set that is underpinned by a kaupapa Māori way of working and is based upon aroha, lived-experience and empathy. This means Kaiārahi build long-lasting, mana-enhancing and trusting relationships with whānau through whakawhanaungatanga:

The initial time with whanau has been to really build reciprocal relationships so whanau felt they were able to trust NTW kaiārahi. A result of investing time into this process is whānau have formed respectful relationships with Kaiārahi and feel this is a safe space to korero about underlying issues that have impacted on whanau flourishing and achieving long-term goals. It has offered the opportunity for appropriate supports and services to be put in place. (Kaiārahi, Ngā Mataapuna Oranga)

The process of whakawhanaungatanga enables Kaiārahi to provide the necessary wraparound and holistic support and resources whānau need, supporting whānau to self-determine and pursue their moemoeā.

Kanohi ki te kanohi was an important element in relationships building with whānau because Kaiārahi and whānau were able to demonstrate culturally significant practices such as being present, engaging with one another in person and the embedding of whakawhanaungatanga as a way of working. As such, Kaiārahi have learnt alongside whānau. It is a respectful relationship where the learning between whānau and Kaiārahi is reciprocal. Whānau mana is enhanced within these relationships, their voices lead the journey and pathways to new possibilities are explored.

Through whakawhanaungatanga, whānau voice remains central. Whānau assert mana motuhake through driving their own plans and Kaiārahi respond to what whānau actually need:

I have learned so far how to use my own voice again how to reach out for support and how to be just me watching my children grow and giving them the life I never had gives me the motivation to pursue my dreams and overcome all barriers of my past in slowly learn to let go of all the things they have held me back at this stage of my life I feel blessed I feel encouraged and I build myself esteem to be a strong mana Wahine. (Whānau, Raukawa Whānau Ora)



WHAKAPAPA AND IDENTITY

Another lever of change within the Whānau Ora and Ngā Tini Whetū ecosystem is grounding and connecting whānau in their whakapapa and identity. Research highlights that connection with Māori cultural identity and whānau identity is a determinant of flourishing (Kingi et al., 2014).

Establishing deep connections to whakapapa, identity and Māoritanga through Ngā Tini Whetū created strong foundations from which whānau achieved moemoeā in other areas of their lives:

The impact the programme has on our Whānau is by decolonizing the systematic mind. By decolonising the mind and strengthening the foundation on 'Ko wai au' you can unlock your potential of knowing who you are, what you want to do and where you want to go for the wellbeing of yourself and Whānau. (Whānau, Kahungunu Health Services)

Connecting with identity built confidence in whānau to move forward and achieve their aspirations, as well as providing a means to heal:

I could see for them the light bulb moment was when we were delivering the whakapapa wānanga it unlocked a journey of kōwhiri au for them. And making wider connections within their Awa, karakia, tikanga process. The whānau were hungry for more and how they can utilise this in supporting them within their own whānau dynamics when it gets challenging. The whānau are building confidence and participating in karakia before we start our Kaupapa. Which is huge for this whānau especially with the high violence in the past which has settled a lot. No report of concerns with oranga tamariki. (Kaiārahi, Ngāti Maniapoto Marae Pact Trust)

Central to connecting whānau to their whakapapa and identity, has been the inherently te ao Māori and tikanga-based way of working. Ngā Tini Whetū is firmly embedded within te ao Māori and tikanga. This has been a key element to success with whānau, and has offered a firm footing in which whānau flourish from. Wānanga have been a key kaupapa, largely based around whakapapa, whanaungatanga, tikanga, healing trauma, and connecting with the maramataka. Wānanga have been a key vehicle for induction into mātauranga Māori for whānau. These have created opportunities for whānau to learn and engage in a supportive environment, and then take this knowledge and apply it in their own lives.

Through the inherent flexibility of tikanga and kaupapa Māori approaches, te ao Māori has remained central to whānau journeys despite the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, ensuring whānau remain connected to their Māoritanga:

Although COVID-19 Delta conditions challenged kaiārahi to work in different ways to support whānau. Face-to-face hui are not always an option, which gave us the opportunity to be more dynamic in continuing engagement. Whānau were engaged via video conferencing and online support groups. Some of our whānau engaged in daily karakia with kaiārahi via video calling, they were given daily information on maramataka Māori, kīwaha, and kupu o te rā. Whānau meet weekly to wānanga what starting their own business would look like. They also had weekly virtual walks with kaiārahi and other whānau on the programme for their wellbeing (mental and physical exercise). (Kaiārahi, Te Kōhao Health)

TRAUMA-INFORMED AND HEALING FOCUSED

For many whānau, reconnection with whakapapa is also a dimension of healing from trauma. Kaupapa Māori solutions to wellbeing emphasise the need to consider the impact of past experiences. A key facet of the Whānau Ora approach to enabling whānau to flourish is being trauma-informed and healing focused. For whānau Māori, trauma extends beyond the individual or situational context. Internationally, indigenous scholarship has articulated the significance of unresolved historical trauma due to colonisation and systemic racism and their ongoing impact upon indigenous communities in the form of a range of dysfunctional behaviours that are learned and passed onto succeeding generations (Pihama et al., 2014). For that reason, understanding the historical experiences of marginalised people when looking for solutions to health and well-being is necessary not only to explain past experiences but to restore one's mauri and/or loss of mana (Tinirau & Smith, 2019; Te Kotahi Research Institute, 2020; Wirihihana & Smith, 2019).

The Whānau Ora approach prioritises the long-term investment required to support whānau on their healing haerenga. Kaiārahi understand the intergenerational trauma experienced by many whānau, and ensure that healing takes place in order for whānau to build into a space of mana motuhake. Through providing the resource and support for whānau and parents to heal, Whānau Ora and Ngā Tini Whetū actioned the prevention of harm for tamariki:

ACC engagement with this caseload of whanau has been minimal, and those that are navigating this pathway is due to historical trauma and accessing appropriate supports. One of the whanau has been engaged with a psychologist through ACC and has made some amazing transformations through his healing journey that will re-shape his future and that of his tamariki. (Kaiārahi, Te Manu Toroa)

A whānau from Te Tihi shared their journey of healing through Ngā Tini Whetū:

I'm like 'here we go again' it had to be something they were used to in that environment raised in, of violence, alcohol, drugs... they were brought up in all that. I reflect where I was growing up in that same environment... the effects are real... when you realise it does infest (in your upbringing) where you have been, and they have been also. From a very early age the moko' were uplifted... aged ten and eleven now. I had a good korero with a Clinical Psychologist... 'This is her advice; all children want is to be loved and belong... (these) two things will work wonders in their life....' It is ongoing, and each day is not the same, each day in our household to nurture each day as it comes was different, sometimes days were challenging, so you are always looking for strategies and hopeful that the mustard seed planted will be a lifetime journey for each of us to grasp and reflect on and to keep moving forward, ahakoa... (Whānau, Te Tihi o Ruahine)

The Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot has provided whānau with the resources and awhi to clear immediate barriers to undertaking journeys of healing for themselves and their whānau, resulting in transformational change. Healing from trauma is therefore a key part of the preconditions for creating a sustained and meaningful reduction in poverty for whānau, as well as creating nurturing relationships with tamariki, and secure and loving homes that enables both parents/caregivers and their tamariki to thrive within their communities.

TE KETE ORANGA

Te Kete Oranga is a key component and lever of change for the Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa. Te Kete Oranga is a financial resource available to whānau engaged with Ngā Tini Whetū. It provides a pathway for whānau to access support and resources to strengthen capability to achieve their aspirations. Reviews of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy state the need for Governments to trust and empower communities to lead design and delivery of solutions to child poverty. Te Kete Oranga is trust and empowerment in action, as whānau, Kaiārahi and Whānau Ora partners determine how resources should be used to support whānau and communities to thrive.

Te Kete Oranga empowers Whānau Ora Partners to have the autonomy to make funding allocation decisions that align to internal kawa and ensure pūtea becomes an enabler of change defined by whānau. This financial support enables whānau to access support and resources to strengthen their capability to pursue and achieve their planned goals. The existing WOCA programme, 'Whānau Direct' that offers whānau access to resources in moments that matter most to them, has informed this funding approach. Te Kete Oranga enables partners to be agile in their response to the needs of whānau. This fund has been calculated at a rate of \$15,000 per whānau over the two year Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot with a total investment of \$12million. Whilst the fund integrity (\$15,000.00 per whānau) remained fixed, WOCA has made use of its flexible allocation approach for each Whānau Ora Collective, enabling Te Kete Oranga to be utilised for either shared or direct whānau investment (see Figure 6). Whānau are a critical element to the planning and use of this pūtea, and it is used depending on the different needs and aspirations of whānau. Regular wānanga and hui have informed new solutions and innovative ways of applying this fund that best align to the interests, needs and goals of whānau.



Figure 6: Snapshot of Te Kete Oranga spending across the Pilot.

Te Kete Oranga pūtea contrasts with other forms of government agency assistance, such as MSD hardship assistance. These forms of funding are not whānau-centred; instead, funding is approved based on agency criteria of what whānau should have or need, meaning power does not sit with whānau. Ngā Tini Whetū whānau often referred to being made to feel whakamā for seeking financial support from agencies. Te Kete Oranga, on the other hand, is a mana-enhancing pūtea resource that looks to support whānau in a whānau-centered, strengths-based and aspirational fashion, giving whānau back the power to determine their own destinies.

Te Kete Oranga funding has been central in supporting whānau to create safe, loving and nurturing homes for their tamariki, ensuring that tamariki have what they need, are happy and healthy, and are learning and developing. The flexibility of this pūtea enables whānau to put it towards their aspirations in ways that work best for them; a bespoke funding mechanism which works in contrast to traditional government top-down, blanket approaches to funding. Whānau and Kaiārahi shared over the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot that Te Kete Oranga was mana-enhancing as it enabled whānau to improve the wellbeing of themselves and their tamariki:

NTW has allowed our whānau to be resilient, they are prepared, they have got kai, they have got the necessary resources through Te Kete Oranga to support them through COVID. This included freezers, medicines, food stores, and clearing debt to allow whānau to manage their finances so that life is less stressful. When I talk with whānau and inform them their Te Kete Oranga applications have been approved, whānau are so emotional and so grateful. This has allowed whānau to focus on their moemoeā because the resources support whānau to self-manage future plans, rather than living day to day. No more living in survival mode. Now it's up to them to keep going, especially whānau who are motivated and need the support to continue to live their lives. They will continue to move forward. (Kaiārahi, Te Tihi o Ruahine)

Time and again, Kaiārahi communicated how the clearing of barriers and the resourcing of whānau through Te Kete Oranga, enabled whānau to dream bigger for themselves and their tamariki as their focus on surviving turned to thriving:

The direct funding is allocated to remove the barriers that require financial backing inclusive of the things that are needed to achieve goals, be that funding, resource, or unexpected requirement. Whānau need to be able to focus on their self-journey to whānau-journey to hold their collective journey. Debt overhanging above whānau, not being able to pay for registrations, or car maintenance, or specific health / community / schooling needs etc, prevents whānau from being able to do that. Direct whānau funding is dedicated to supporting whānau in this space, so they can focus on them and their journey to whānau mana motuhake. (Kaiārahi, Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki)

Through the utilisation of Te Kete Oranga, whānau have been able to address multiple issues that have been preventing them from achieving moemoeā and flourishing:

Single mama of 2 has completed her forklift OSH cert, and is now in training for the F endorsement. She was able to achieve her main goal of getting her teeth done and feel more comfortable smiling as her goal was to not be in pain but also be able to smile without covering her face. Kete Oranga has also impacted this whānau in a positive way to secure appropriate bedding/clothing that this mama was not able to purchase due to being on a benefit. She is currently enrolled into next year's intake at Toi Ohomai to attend [a] heavy machinery course to help her get into the truck driving business. She has started her counselling sessions to begin her healing process in becoming a better mum to support her children on her own. (Kaiārahi, Ngā Mataapuna Oranga)



SECTION FIVE:
INSIGHTS AS A RESULT
OF THE LEVERS OF CHANGE



SNAPSHOT OF TE KETE ORANGA (TKO) SPEND ACROSS NGĀ TINI WHETŪ OUTCOME DOMAINS

DEBT REDUCTION AND FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

OUTCOME AREA	WHĀNAU COUNT	AMOUNT	TKO RESOURCE SUPPORT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL TKO SPEND
Reduced Debt/ Payment of Bills/ Fines	77/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$317,629	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payment of outstanding debt to relieve financial pressures Improving financial capability/stability 	\$419,120	3.5%
Financial Literacy/ Budgeting	39/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$101,491	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaining better financial management skills 		

HOUSING

OUTCOME AREA	WHĀNAU COUNT	AMOUNT	TKO RESOURCE SUPPORT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL TKO SPEND
Home Ownership/ Housing (incl. Accommodation/ Emergency Housing)	61/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$462,173	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing options (rentals/cabins) Putea to support purchasing first home Building whānau home on whānau whenua 	\$1,771,166	14.8%
Housing Standards (incl. Household Maintenance)	105/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$489,886	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthier homes (access to hot water) Maintenance of whare (roof repairs, fencing, insulation) Home security 		
Basic Household Items, Amenities or Clothing	256/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$819,107	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furnishing homes (bed, table, chairs) Appliances (fridge freezer, support with food safety/storage) 		

EMPLOYMENT / EDUCATION

OUTCOME AREA	WHĀNAU COUNT	AMOUNT	TKO RESOURCE SUPPORT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL TKO SPEND
Skills/Knowledge for Employment (Work Readiness)	67/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$184,132	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building CV, developing Interview skills Improving access to employment pathways/opportunities 	\$1,415,213	11.8%
Education/Training	282/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$1,231,081	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course fees Educational resources (laptops, books, pens etc) 		

TRANSPORT

OUTCOME AREA	WHĀNAU COUNT	AMOUNT	TKO RESOURCE SUPPORT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL TKO SPEND
Safe Transport Options	197/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$460,266	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle safety (Rego, WOF, Baby seats) Access to reliable transport options to employment or school Support in gaining drivers licenses 	\$460,266	3.8%

BUILDING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY

OUTCOME AREA	WHĀNAU COUNT	AMOUNT	TKO RESOURCE SUPPORT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL TKO SPEND
Business Development/ Social Enterprise	330/800 Whānau used TKO funding to support achieving this outcome	\$2,791,563	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business start-up costs to start/expand current capabilities Resourcing for the business (equipment/software/storage) Access to business support/ mentoring (knowledge) 	\$2,791,563	23.3%

The following section outlines the main results/outcomes in relation to the levers of change (i.e. Holistic, wrap-around support for whānau, Whakawhanaungatanga (building whānau trust and confidence), Whakapapa (genealogy) and identity, being trauma-informed and healing focused, Te Kete Oranga (i.e. providing direct funding that is flexible and can be used in a way that meets the specific needs of each whānau). These key results and areas of spend are divided into five main outcomes domains. These include Debt Reduction and Financial Resilience, Housing, Employment/Education, Transport, Building Business Development Capability.

DEBT REDUCTION AND FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

Ngā Tini Whetū supported whānau in their aspirations of reducing debt and building financial resilience, clearing pathways towards poverty reduction and improving material wellbeing, two key outcomes outlined within the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (DPMC, 2018). The Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) identifies household debt as a key contributor to hardship; debt repayments can leave already financially-stretched households without sufficient money to pay for basic necessities such as transport, utilities and food (CPAG, 2021b). The government has recognised debt for low income families is a crucial piece of the child poverty puzzle that needs to be addressed, noting that “problem debt can have a significant impact on individuals and whānau in hardship contributing to financial hardship, stress, poor physical and mental health, stigma and social exclusion” (DPMC, 2021, n.p.). The work programme on reducing debt to the government for low income families concludes that “reducing debt for people in hardship will therefore help some of New Zealand’s most vulnerable children, and help the government make progress towards achieving its ambitious child poverty targets and in particular, its material hardship target” (DPMC, 2021, n.p.).

Ngā Tini Whetū aligns closely with the aims of the reducing debt to government work programme. Kaiārahi work with whānau to develop a budget, and help them to access services and support that can assist with debt reduction and/or management. Whānau are also supported to develop realistic plans for how they will meet their financial obligations going forward and be prepared for future challenges and opportunities. When debt is cleared, pūtea is freed up for other needs to ensure tamariki have what they need and are happy and healthy.

Reducing debt has cleared the path for whānau to be able to fully focus on taking the next steps to achieve their moemoeā. The whānau stories shared throughout the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot reporting highlighted how debilitating debt anxiety can be for many whānau and how once they are freed from this burden, building towards financial resilience becomes easier, and stress within the whare is reduced, contributing to positive wellbeing for parents, caregivers and tamariki. Alleviating debt is not usually the main moemoeā of whānau, as there are often bigger dreams whānau want to work towards. But Ngā Tini Whetū allows whānau the opportunity to discuss with Kaiārahi and other advisors the path to achieving their goals, and this often involves addressing their debt situation. Addressing debt provides the foundation from which progress can be made by whānau:

They started in a post-domestic violence situation, hapu, dad was on bail and gang affiliated; tamariki had regular health issues and they were drowning in debt. To date we have worked closely with a financial planner; minimized significant debt and enabled the whanau to start seeking affordable materials/options to build on their own whenua. Initially, they wanted first home ownership, but with their significant debt and discussions with a broker [redacted], at that stage, they would not be considered desirable candidates for a home loan. We discussed alternatives, and despite them initially being apprehensive about this particular option (moving onto and building their own whare on their Maori land), they realised it was the most viable and achievable option to them. To date dad is continuing with his apprenticeship and loving the mahi of knowing he is doing something legit, and for the future of his whanau, which gives him an immense sense of achievement and pride in himself. (Kaiārahi, Ngāti Hine Health Trust)

Whānau shared throughout the kaupapa that the clearing of debt was mana-enhancing, helped to build confidence and optimism amongst the whānau unit, and propelled whānau into a space of financial stability:

Since joining the program it has been quite life changing for me and my whanau. There has been growth within myself and seeing my family being able to flourish from this has brought a lot of hope for our future that we thought was dim! I came into the program with debt and a dream but without any financial aid or motivation to continue to complete, the future for my whanau seemed quite dull and living week to week, struggling to keep afloat and our goals alive ... Since doing this program I have been able to achieve a lot. My moemoea. I am a mother of 4 young children soon to be five. I am now not afraid of what the future holds for us. I now own a business started from home ... I have become debt free with 2 offers to lease a building and work towards the bigger dream of owning our own home. (Whānau, Tūwharetoa Health)

Through the clearing of debt, multiple generations within whānau have benefited. With debts paid, whānau can use their pūtea to meet their immediate needs and work towards their aspirations. The reduction of debt works directly towards the outcomes and actions outlined within the Child and Youth Wellbeing strategy; improving income and employment within the whare, ensuring parents or caregivers have a good standard of material wellbeing, ensuring whānau have regular access to nutritious food, and having the means to access stable housing that is affordable, warm and dry.



HOUSING

Improving housing affordability, quality and security, one of the action focus areas of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, is a major element of the Ngā Tini Whetū programme. Many of the whānau identified and developed their own housing goals, with autonomy over what housing options were most suitable for them. These goals ranged from home ownership, to moving out of emergency housing and securing stable rentals, to establishing papakāinga, to completing repairs, connecting utilities and making homes warm, dry and healthy. Kaiarāhi then supported whānau to plan how to achieve these goals and connected them with the necessary resources within their local communities, undertaking the actions outlined within the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy's Programme of Action for housing (Child and Youth Wellbeing, 2019). This whānau-led approach aligns with the emphasis on the need for whānau-centered, locally-led and ground-up initiatives in the housing space (Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, 2019; The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022). Accessing secure and healthy housing is important for tamariki to feel safe and nurtured, to have what they need, to be happy and healthy, and to be able to participate fully in education and their communities (Motu Research, 2022). As the outcomes of the Healthy Homes Initiative has shown, improvements to housing for low income families can have a dramatic impact on the health, wellbeing and education of children (Motu Research, 2022), and Ngā Tini Whetū whānau were able to reap the benefits of their dedication to pursuing their housing moemoeā.

Whānau shared how accessing a safe and secure home set the foundations for them to build community, seek a fresh start and have their immediate needs met to focus on their bigger moemoeā for them and their tamariki. When tamariki have a secure household they can be involved and empowered within their school environments, as told by a whānau at Raukawa Whānau Ora:

Life for me has begun again and I have hope then in my new area I am living with my for children in our own home what's my children engaging in school and with my positive friends to support me to be the best that I can be is exciting and is reassuring me that my life will get better and with the support of my navigator I am able to move towards my dreams and inspirations with a positive outlook on my future and what their future looks like will only be determined by me I am hopeful in ready to start this new chapter of my life. (Whānau, Raukawa Whānau Ora)

Ngā Tini Whetū has provided whānau with the resources and support to improve the quality of housing and provide furnishings to ensure tamariki are happy and healthy:

I have had these kids for four years and it has been a struggle to get support from Oranga Tamariki because when they gave the kids they took away their support to get the kids what they needed. Now, I have been able to settle the kids and myself into our home, I am so grateful for the help you guys gave me because i don't think i would have gotten this far without the help. I am sleeping better thanks to you fellas getting me a good bed and the kids love their bedroom furniture. With the resources, i can provide and nurture the kids better because I don't have to worry about things breaking down or not having the right household items to create a safe and happy home environment. Kia ora. (Whānau, Toa Rangatira Te Roopu Āwhina)

One area where Ngā Tini Whetū has been particularly transformative has been its support for whānau seeking to establish papakāinga. On their own, whānau often struggle to navigate the complex processes required for papakāinga development and the support of Ngā Tini Whetū Kaiārahi has been crucial in many instances in enabling whānau to realise long-held dreams. Papakāinga Development was highlighted as one of the focus actions for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, which notes ‘It will raise Māori intergenerational wellbeing by taking a whānau-led approach to addressing housing and wider community needs’ (Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, 2019). This is amply demonstrated by the following example from Ngā Tini Whetū:

A real stand out moment to date has been supporting our whānau through their papakainga build process. Hearing her speak of the multi-generational venture and years of hard work and perseverance it has taken them to get to the point they are at now stirs all sorts of emotions within. This is the case not only for her and her whānau, but for so many others struggling their way through trying to build something of their own to call home.

Going to visit with this whānau soon after their home had been delivered onto their whenua, capturing the pride and absolute joy in their eyes as they showed us room by room their whare, was a moment in time I will never forget.

Papakāinga is a real reflection of a Māori support system in action. The whare these whānau live in are not just structures to reside in, but are whenua connections between generations, where tikanga of the past has space to be embraced and reinforced at a cultural and spiritual level. (Kaiārahi, Te Ao Hou Trust)

Through the support in the housing space that Ngā Tini Whetū has provided to whānau, whānau have accessed secure, affordable and quality housing, such as rentals, ownership and papakāinga, essential household items, and created opportunities for kai sovereignty. This has improved the wellbeing of parents and their tamariki, and has meant that tamariki can be happy and healthy within their whare, and enables both parents/caregivers and tamariki to be more involved and empowered within their communities. Having a secure place to live also provides parents and caregivers with the foundation to gain employment opportunities.



EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

The Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot supported whānau in their aspirations to improve earnings and employment, another of the action focus areas within the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. Ngā Tini Whetū's approach to supporting whānau into employment was not just about getting whānau into a job. It was about creating the foundations for whānau to find mahi that ignites their wairua, supports their tamariki, and gives back to their community. This approach to employment reflects the recommendations of the latest review of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, calling for a strengths-based approach, that is whānau-led and built at the local level (The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022).

Ngā Tini Whetū has assisted whānau to access services and support that can help with job search, applying for courses and tertiary education, CV writing, and interview preparation. Whānau are also supported to develop a plan for how they will meet their employment and education needs going forward. Through Ngā Tini Whetū, parents and caregivers have gained the skills and support they need to access employment and provide income for their households. Whānau and tamariki material circumstances improve as a result of parents securing employment and education opportunities, as they have the resources to afford the costs of essentials and can access secure, quality and affordable housing.

Employment and education opportunities for parents and caregivers have created income for the whare as well as creating environments for tamariki where they are also learning and developing. Kaiārahi and whānau shared stories of gaining employment, and how this has benefited the multiple generations within a whānau:

Whānau member is now fully self-employed. Her abilities as a gardener have been recognised within the community and she now has five regular weekly gardening jobs at private properties. She continues to build her enterprise and her gardens are thriving, some produce and products are now at the stage of readiness for sale. She expresses one of her greatest joys throughout this process has been the involvement of her whānau, in particular, her tamariki who are learning beside her as her business grows and develops. (Kaiārahi, Te Ao Hou Trust)

As whānau are immersed within education and employment opportunities, the benefits are felt amongst their tamariki, wider whānau, and hapori:

Whānau are self-managing, and directing their intentions in education, nurturing their tamariki and whānau relationships. They are participating in the community and aiming to become their own bosses. They are no longer dreaming of opportunities, they are creating opportunities and sharing their knowledge with their extended whānau, hapu and iwi. (Kaiārahi, Toa Rangatira Te Roopu Āwhina)

Not only have parents and caregivers entering employment and education improved the material wellbeing of their households, but environments have been created where tamariki feel more empowered and involved, and they have the opportunities to learn and develop alongside their parents. As parents and caregivers ignite their wairua and find their passions, tamariki feel this too as their home environments become more optimistic and aspirational.

TRANSPORT

A key activity undertaken in Ngā Tini Whetū by whānau was accessing safe and reliable transport. Helping whānau access reliable transport is one of the many activities that Whānau Ora partners and Kaiārahi undertake in order to support whānau in building towards long-term and holistic material wellbeing.

Ngā Tini Whetū and Te Kete Oranga have contributed to accessing new vehicles, repairing vehicles to a safe standard, gaining drivers licenses for whānau, and affording public transport costs. Through accessing transport, parents and caregivers can gain employment and secure income for their whānau, improving the material wellbeing of their household and providing pūtea to afford the costs of essentials. Gaining secure transport also provides the means for parents and caregivers and their tamariki to participate within the wider community, after school activities and education, improving overall wellbeing for tamariki:

I am so grateful for the support my whanau and I have received from the Nga Tini Whetu program. It has taught me a lot about myself and how important it is to make good decisions. I have four kids and my partner works full time, but we still struggle financially, but things have been made easier for us with the support of the program. My children are still attending all their community activities, and school is going well for them too. I am glad that I have a good vehicle to transport my children to and from their activities and school. (Whānau, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira)

Often gaining reliable transport is just one step in a wider aspirational plan for whānau, and has many positive knock on effects for their aspirational journeys:

She achieved her restricted driver's license, 25 March 2022. She played a major role in searching and finding the appropriate economical vehicle for herself and her daughter. Part of her PATH Plan was once she had achieved her license she would receive a car, this has been completed. This will enable her to find employment, attend a course and be able to have positive outings with her daughter. Previously she was restricted from being able to engage with the community and relied on other people for transport. This has also enabled her to be more independent. She is over the moon with her accomplishment. (Kaiārahi, Ngāpuhi Iwi Social Services)

Not only has securing transport enabled many parents and caregivers to gain employment and create income for their households, but it has strengthened the wellbeing of tamariki as they can now access after school activities and their whānau are able to support them with their sports and hobbies. Gaining transport contributes to the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy's outcomes of increasing employment and income, tamariki learning and developing, tamariki being empowered and involved, and tamariki feeling loved and nurtured by their parents.

BUILDING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CAPABILITY

Through Ngā Tini Whetū, whānau were supported in their aspirations to develop the skills, knowledge and resources needed to establish and develop successful businesses. This included assisting whānau to access services and support that can help with business planning, marketing, and financial management. Whānau were also supported to develop a plan for how they will meet their business development needs going forward. Through the creation and development of businesses, whānau create income and employment, and improve the material wellbeing within their households. Through business income, whānau can afford essentials, ensure tamariki have their needs met, and work towards accessing quality, secure and affordable housing.

Whānau cohorts in Ngā Tini Whetū have created communities of businesses who support one another, creating locally-led and ground-up solutions to improving income and employment for whānau and wider communities. Whānau also created businesses that reflected their aspirations and dreams, and many businesses were designed to give back to the community through employment and/or goods and services. This Whānau Ora approach to business establishment and development meets the recommendations of the reviews of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy that call for whānau-centered, community-led and kaupapa Māori approaches to improving the wellbeing of tamariki, whānau and communities.

Establishing and developing businesses through Ngā Tini Whetū was a pathway to creating intergenerational financial independence, securing income and employment, and ensuring that tamariki would have their needs met to be happy and healthy:

The biggest growth I have seen is their desire for their [parents/caregivers] own children and passing on their knowledge about business to their children encouraging them to be their own boss and to help break some of those generational bondages of debt and financial insecurity and survival mode to instil in our children that anything is possible and that they can be successful and they can earn their own income, they are creative and gifted. (Kaiārahi, Te Whānau O Waipareira)

Many WOCA partners provided spaces for whānau to learn about business and financial independence in spaces underpinned by tikanga and te ao Māori, such as rongoā wānanga. This allows whānau to simultaneously connect with their Māoritanga, be healthy, and create household income:

Health Care is a struggle for Whanau. Whānau can improve their lifestyle through rongoa in many ways. Employment is incredibly low in this area and there is a struggle for whānau who are not financially stable. The Rongoa program is designed to provide whanau with the tools to make a range of products. The vision of setting up whānau their own business so they are equipped make their own money and maintain their own lives well. (Kaiārahi, Ngā Waihua o Paerangi)

Establishing and developing small businesses contributes to the multiple outcomes and actions of the Child and Youth Strategy. Business development provides income and employment for whānau, contributing to material wellbeing within the household, pūtea to be used for essentials and aspirations, and the means to access secure, affordable and quality housing. Parents and caregivers establishing businesses also provide opportunities for tamariki to learn and develop entrepreneurial skills alongside their parents.

KEY DATA TRENDS AND INSIGHTS

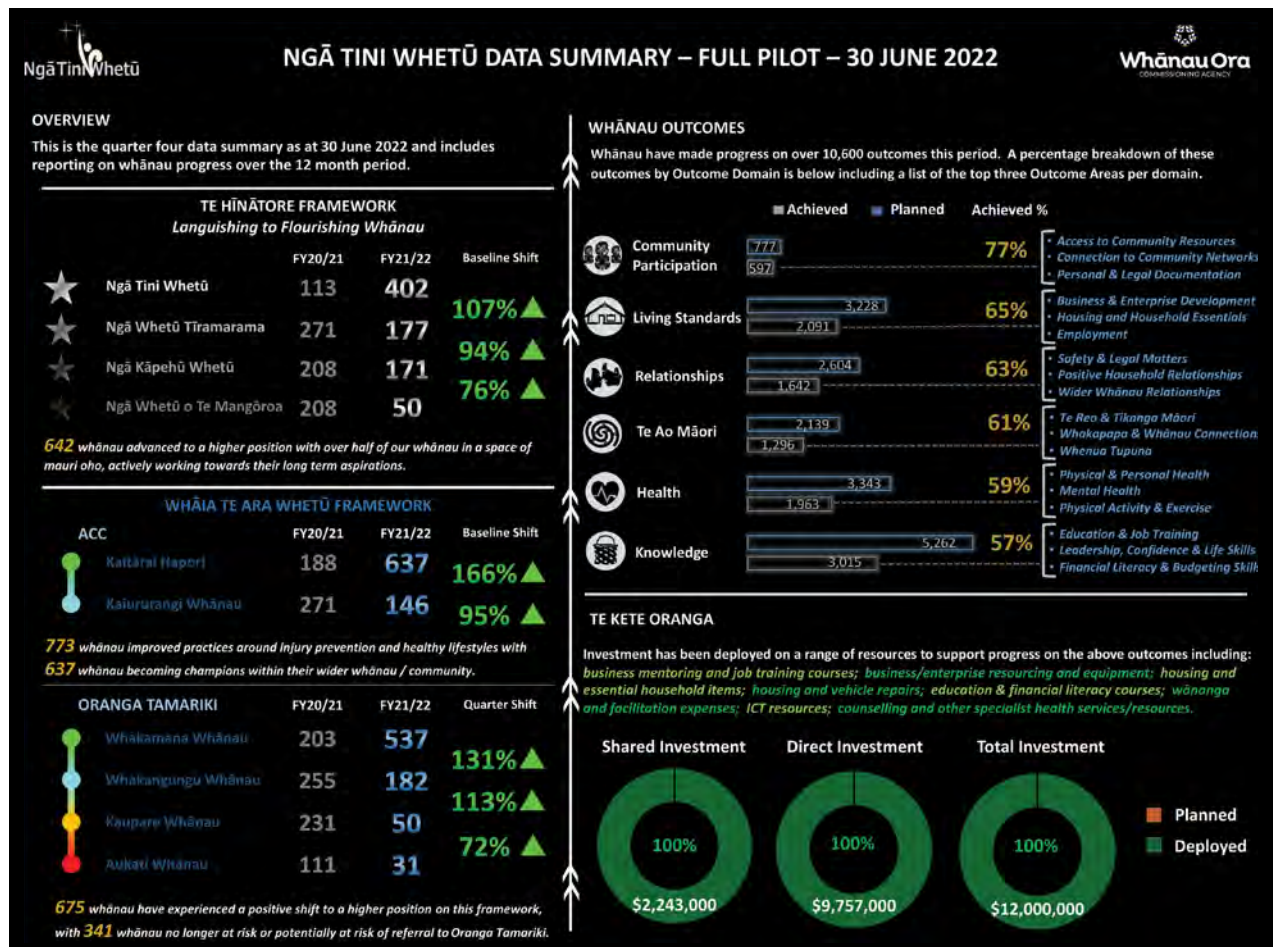


Figure 7: High level data insights and trends of whānau journeys of transformation across the Pilot.

The Whānau Ora approach has been successful in reducing child poverty and improving outcomes for children and families. Data collected as part of Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot found that, after the Pilot, there was evidence of considerable progress against both the Te Hīnāture outcomes framework and the Whāia Te Ara Whetū framework (See Figure 7). Data has also found Ngā Tini Whetū had a positive impact on a range of other indicators of wellbeing, including mental health, education, employment, and housing (Figure 7). These broader outcomes that have been achieved as a result of the integrated funding approach have exceeded the initial expectations of the agencies involved. More detail on the outcomes and indicators can be found within Appendix 4.

Some of the key trends and insights from the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot include:

Quarter One:

- Whānau are motivated by the prospect of achieving their goals and aspirations
- Whānau feel more empowered when they have access to resources and support
- Whānau appreciate having a Kaiārahi who understands their individual circumstances

Quarter Two:

- Whānau report feeling more positive about their future prospects
- Whānau are making progress towards their goals and aspirations
- Whānau appreciate the wraparound support from Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot

Quarter Three:

- Whānau report significant progress in achieving their goals and aspirations
- Whānau feel more confident and capable as a result of participating in Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot
- Whānau appreciate the ongoing support from Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot

Quarter Four:

- Whānau report feeling more positive about their future prospects
- Whānau are making progress towards their goals and aspirations
- Whānau appreciate the wraparound support from Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot
- Whānau are keen to see Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot continue beyond the Pilot phase

In terms of reducing child poverty, some overall key trends and insights observed include:

- Whānau are more likely to engage with services and support when they feel motivated by the prospect of achieving their goals and aspirations (e.g. improved housing, education, and health for their children).
- Whānau appreciate having access to resources and support that are tailored to their individual circumstances (e.g. whānau-centred approach, Kaiārahi support).
- Whānau feel more empowered when they have a Kaiārahi who understands their unique situation and can provide wraparound support.
- Whānau report making significant progress in achieving their goals and aspirations as a result of participating in Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot – this includes improved financial security, housing, education, and health for their children.
- Whānau appreciate the wraparound support from Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot and are keen to see the programme continue beyond the Pilot phase.

THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19

Although COVID-19 has had a profound impact on WOCA providers and the whānau they work with, WOCA and its partners have still seen huge success with their whānau on the Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa. Some partners noted that the connections and networks built through the Ngā Tini Whetū programme helped whānau to stay afloat during the difficulties of lockdowns and quarantines. However, the pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing inequalities, and WOCA providers have had to rapidly adapt their services to meet the changing needs and aspirations of whānau. There has also been enormous pressure on the Ngā Tini Whetū Kaiārahi, as in many rohe, as they were redeployed to COVID-19 related mahi. Both whānau and Kaiārahi were directly affected by sickness and quarantine, which interrupted progress on their Ngā Tini Whetū journeys. Many Kaiārahi noted the impact of COVID-19 on whānau outcomes and have speculated about how much more Ngā Tini Whetū could have been achieved were it not for the pandemic.

In terms of child poverty, the impacts of COVID-19 are likely to be significant and long-lasting. The pandemic has resulted in job losses, reduced hours, and pay cuts for many whānau. Large numbers of whānau have been forced to move onto benefits as a result. This is likely to lead to increased poverty and inequality, as well as increased demand for Whānau Ora services. In response, WOCA and its partners continue to support whānau and make sure whānau have access to the support they need, reinforcing the need for whānau-centered and kaupapa Māori services as we move into a 'new normal'.



CONCLUSION

This report has demonstrated how the potential that exists within whānau can be realised when they are surrounded with wrap-around holistic care focused on supporting their dreams and aspirations. This whānau-centred, community led programme has resulted in incredible transformations within whānau that go far beyond an improvement in material wellbeing for tamariki and rangatahi:

When meeting one whānau, there was no confidence in how to behave or parent based on the whānau situation. I asked the wahine “are you nervous about bringing your boys into your full time care”, she responded, “I’m anxious, I’m not nervous about having them, I’m nervous about parenting.” In this quarter she developed these skills and has built her confidence as a mother and has since received compliments on her parenting skills. I learnt that our whānau can change if they want to change. I believe that when whānau are given the opportunity to self-determine, when they are given the right support, the proper resources, and space to realise their potential, they thrive. (Kaiārahi, Te Kete Hauora O Rangitāne)

Ngā Tini Whetū exemplifies the success of a cross-sectoral approach that sees resource devolved to WOCA, its partners and their communities. This has meant that resources have been utilised in a way that best reflects the needs, aspirations and mana of whānau. Reducing child poverty may not have been the focus of Ngā Tini Whetū, but as a result of its kaupapa Māori and whānau-centered way of working and the many levers of change engaged to support whānau, collateral change has rippled out and led to wider multi-faceted outcomes, such as a reduction in child poverty. Many outcomes have been met that are outlined within the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, as well as those desired by Oranga Tamariki and ACC. Whānau have been supported in a way that has enabled them to pursue their aspirations and enter into spaces of mana motuhake for them and their tamariki. Solutions lie within the whānau, and Ngā Tini Whetū has provided the platform for a cross-sectoral, strengths-based and kaupapa Māori approach to reducing child poverty and improving the hauora of whānau.

The reviews of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy recommend the prioritisation and resourcing of locally-led and whānau centered approaches to improving the wellbeing of tamariki and whānau (DPMC, 2022; The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab, 2022). They both call for a ‘ground-up’ approach, and note that the government and its agencies are ‘grappling with the how’. Whānau Ora and their Ngā Tini Whetū kaupapa is the how; building from the ground-up with whānau, distributing resource through a high-trust and locally-led model, being guided by indigenous wisdom, and placing whānau wellbeing and aspiration at the heart of all kaupapa. There is considerable enthusiasm for scaling up the Ngā Tini Whetū approach across WOCA providers. A long-term funding commitment to enable the continuation of this kaupapa and provide certainty around staffing and resourcing is required, if the lessons of Ngā Tini Whetū are not to be wasted.

LOOKING AHEAD

Ngā Tini Whetū has demonstrated that a Whānau Ora-inspired, kaupapa Māori approach can make a significant difference in the lives of tamariki and Whānau.

The stories shared by whānau are rich, and the learnings and insights gained from this Pilot are invaluable. Hence, there is a role for WOCA in championing Ngā Tini Whetū so that other organisations and services who are committed to improving outcomes for our tamariki benefit. The findings from this Pilot also have implications for Whānau Ora policy and practice more broadly. There is also the capability and capacity within WOCA now to support mainstream providers to deliver whānau-centred services that are effective in reducing child poverty. This includes providing training and support for mainstream providers on how to best work with whānau struggling with intergenerational poverty. Further research is also needed to determine the long-term impacts of Ngā Tini Whetū.

As we look ahead, it is clear that there is an ongoing need for programmes like Ngā Tini Whetū that take a holistic approach to supporting whānau to reduce child poverty. Whānau Ora provides an opportunity to build on the successes of Ngā Tini Whetū and create lasting, positive change for whānau across Aotearoa New Zealand.



REFERENCES

- Boston, J. (2014). Child poverty in New Zealand: Why it matters and how it can be reduced. *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, 46(9), 962-988.
- Carne, S. S., Rees, D., Paton, N., & Fanslow, J. L. (2019). *Using systems thinking to address intimate partner violence and child abuse in New Zealand*: New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse, University of Auckland.
- Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. (2019). *Programme of Action*. Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. <https://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/resources/programme-action#help-families-with-the-costs-of-essentials>
- Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. (2022). *Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2021*. New Zealand Government. <https://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-04/cyws-annual-report-year-ended-june-2021.pdf>
- Child Poverty Action Group. (2020). *Statistics: Hospitalisation Rates*. Child Poverty Action Group. <https://www.cpag.org.nz/statistics/hospitalisation-rates>
- Child Poverty Action Group. (2021a). *2021 Briefing to the Incoming Minister: Health*. Child Poverty Action Group. <https://www.cpag.org.nz/publications/2021-bim-minister-health>
- Child Poverty Action Group. (2021b). *Statistics: Debt to MSD*. Child Poverty Action Group. <https://www.cpag.org.nz/statistics/debt-to-msd>
- Child Poverty Action Group. (2022). *Statistics: Latest child poverty figures 2020/21*. Child Poverty Action Group. <https://www.cpag.org.nz/statistics/latest-child-poverty-figures>
- Child Poverty Monitor. (2021). *Measures: Healthy food*. *Child Poverty Monitor 2021*. <https://www.childpoverty.org.nz/measures/food>
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. (2019). *Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy*. <https://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/resources/child-and-youth-wellbeing-strategy#the-opportunity>
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. (2021). *Proactive release: Reducing impact of debt to government*. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. <https://dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-02/proactive-release-reducing-impact-of-debt-to-government-3feb22.pdf>
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. (2022). *Review of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy - Findings and Recommendations*. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. <https://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-09/proactive-release-briefing-cyw-strategy-findings-recommendations.pdf>
- Kingi, T.K., Durie, M.K., Durie, M., Cunningham, C., Borman, B., & Ellison-Loschmann, L. (2014). *Te Puawaitanga o Ngā Whānau Six Markers of Flourishing Whānau*. Palmerston North: Massey University.
- Ministry of Social Development. (2018). *Rapid Evidence Review: The impact of poverty on life course outcomes for children, and likely effect of increasing the adequacy of welfare benefits*. Ministry of Social Development. <https://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/weag-report-release/rapid-evidence-review-the-impact-of-poverty-on-life-course-outcomes-for-children-and-the-likely-effect-of-increasing-the-adequacy-of-welfare-benef.pdf>
- Motu Research. (2022). *Healthy Homes Initiative: Three year outcomes evaluation*. Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand. <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/about-us/publications/healthy-homes-initiative-three-year-outcomes-evaluation/>
- New Zealand Child and Youth Epidemiology Service. (2021). *Child Poverty Monitor Report*. NZ Children. <https://nzchildren.co.nz/>
- Pihama, L., Reynolds, P., Smith, C., Reid, J., Smith, L. T., & Nana, R. T. (2014). Positioning historical trauma theory within Aotearoa New Zealand. *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, 10(3), 248-262.

Poulton, R., Caspi, A., Milne, B. J., Thomson, W., M., Taylor, A., Sears, M. R., & Moffitt, T. E. (2002). Association between children's experience of socioeconomic disadvantage and adult health: a life-course study. *The Lancet*, 360(9346), 1640-1645.

Stats NZ. (n.a.). *Measuring child poverty: Material hardship*. Statistics New Zealand. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Methods/Measuring-child-poverty-Material-hardship/Download-data/measuring-child-poverty-material-hardship.pdf>

Stats NZ. (2022a). *Child poverty statistics: Year ended June 2021*. Statistics New Zealand. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/child-poverty-statistics-year-ended-june-2021>

Stats NZ. (2022b). *Child poverty statistics show all measures trending downwards over the last three years*. Statistics New Zealand. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/child-poverty-statistics-show-all-measures-trending-downwards-over-the-last-three-years>

Te Kotahi Research Institute. (2020). *He Oranga Ngākau: Māori approaches to trauma informed care*. <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/rangahau/koi-te-mata-punenga-innovation/research/hauora-health/well-being>

The Southern Initiative & Auckland Co-design Lab. (2022). *Unleashing the Potential of Whānau Centered and Community Led Ways of Working Enhancing Collective Ownership and Action*. <https://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-08/TSI%20CYWS%20Review%20-%20Unleashing%20the%20potential%20of%20wh%C4%81nau%20centred%20and%20locally%20led%20ways%20of%20working%20%28August%202022%29.pdf>

Tinirau, R., & Smith, C. (Eds.). (2019). *He ara uru ora: Traditional Māori understandings of trauma and well-being*. Te Atawhai o Te Ao. <https://teatawhai.maori.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/He-Ara-Uru-Ora.pdf>

UNICEF. (2020). *A Fair Childhood: What are the facts in New Zealand?* UNICEF. unicef.org.nz/in-new-zealand/fair-childhood

Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency. (2021). *Ko Te Wā Whakawhiti, It's Time to Change*. <https://whanauora.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/OT-REVIEW-REPORT.pdf>

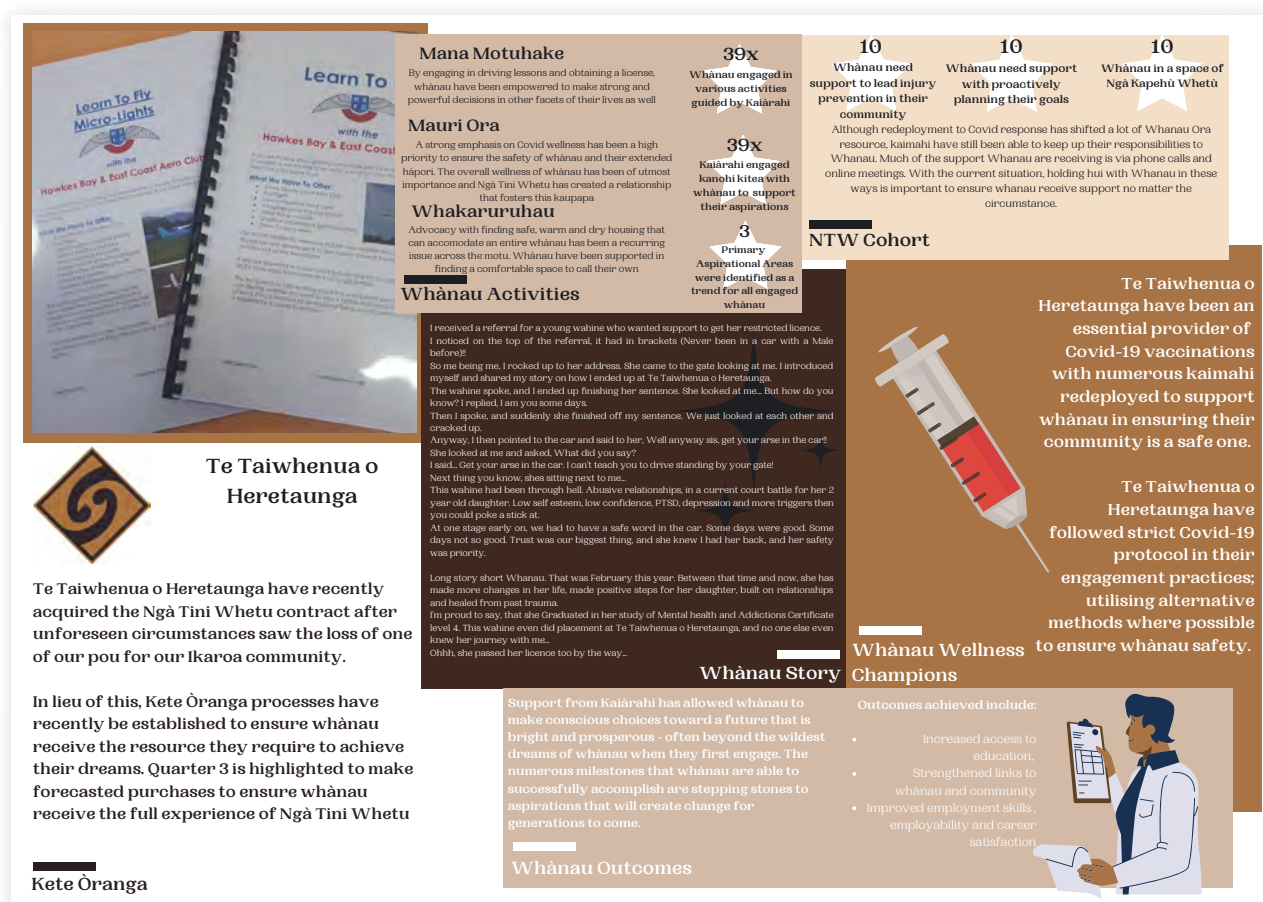
Wirihana, R., & Smith, C. (2019). Historical trauma, healing and well-being in Māori communities. In C. Smith & R. Tinirau (Eds.), *He rau murimuri aroha: Wāhine Māori insights into historical trauma and healing* (pp. 3- 16). Whanganui: Te Atawhai o Te Ao.

APPENDICES

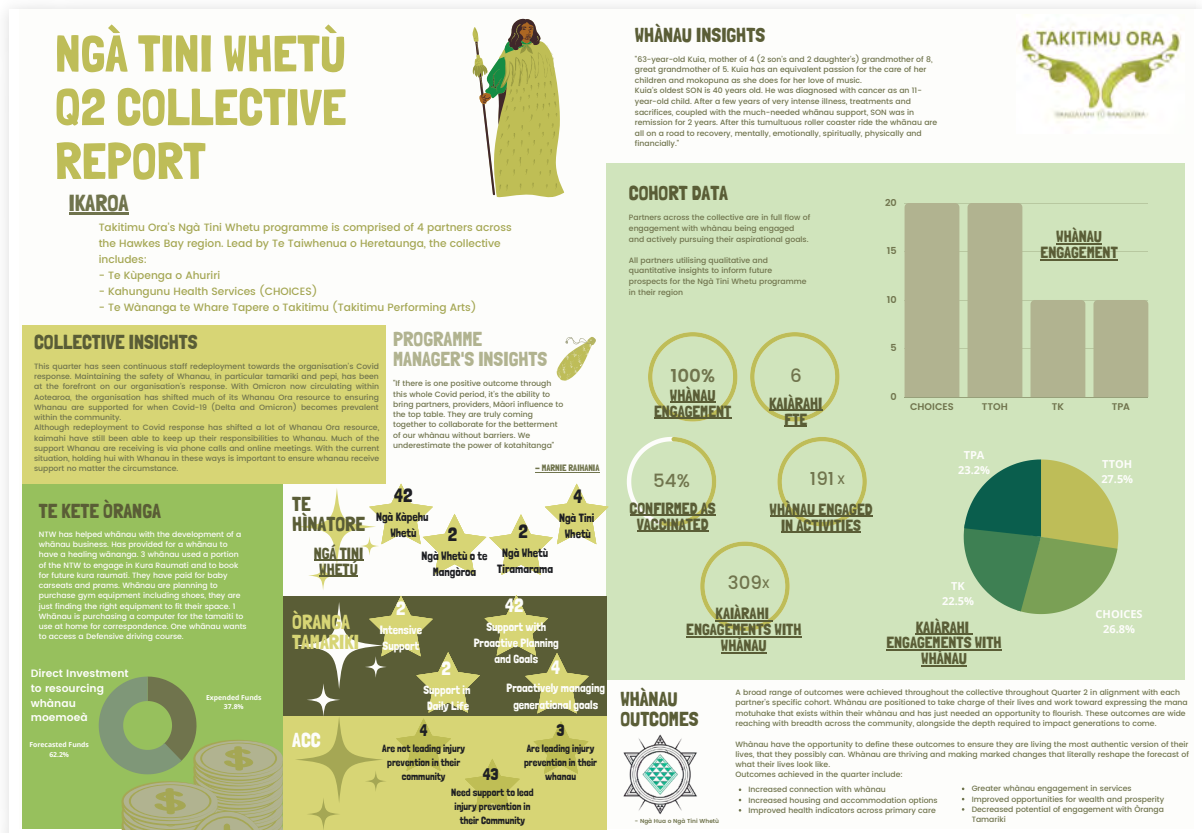
APPENDIX 1: LEVELS OF REPORTING

The examples that follow provide insight into the multi-layered systems approach to the Ngā Tini Whetū reporting. The reporting started at the partner level with whānau, was then collated at the collective level, and brought together at the regional and WOCA level. This enabled whānau stories of transformation to be told with mana and provide guidance and learnings across the entire WOCA ecosystem. The systems approach to reporting was vital in understanding how Ngā Tini Whetū has contributed to a long term reduction in child poverty across Te-Ika-a-Māui.

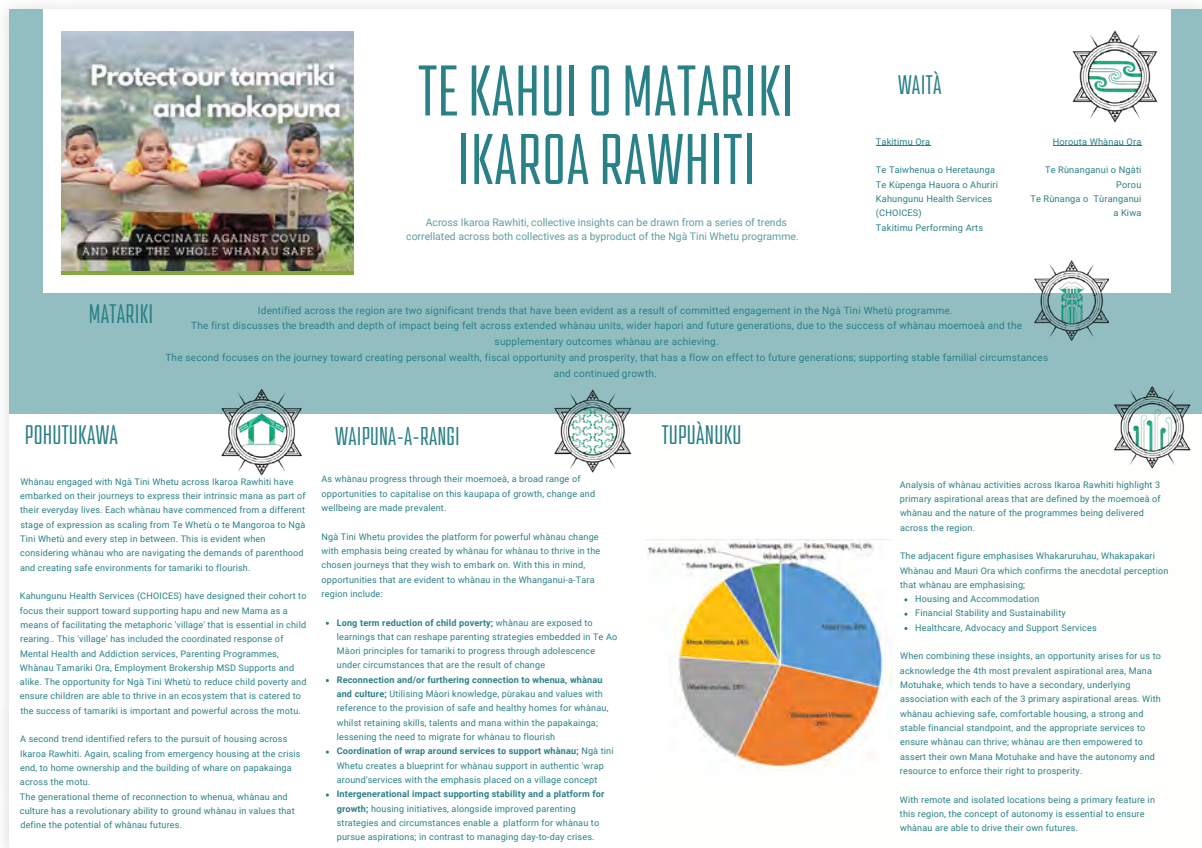
Partner Level – Data and Narrative Insights




Collective Level – Data and Narrative Insights




Regional Level – Data and Narrative Insights





NGĀ TINĪ WHETŪ DATA SUMMARY - SIX MONTHLY - 31 DECEMBER 2021



OVERVIEW

This is the six monthly data summary for the period ended 31 December 2021. This summary includes reporting on performance indicators, whānau outcomes and baseline shifts against each framework. All key performance indicators have been met as outlined in the table below:

Key Performance Indicator	Target	Actual	Result
Whānau are supported to achieve their priority outcomes	800	800	Achieved
Whānau have been assessed to identify their needs and aspirations	100%	100%	Achieved
Whānau have developed a plan with goals to achieve their aspirations	100%	100%	Achieved
Whānau report a positive experience through their engagement	80%	92%	Achieved
Whānau achieve one or more of their priority outcomes	40%	78%	Achieved

WHĀNĀU OUTCOMES

	Achieved	Planned
Knowledge	1,593	2,872
Health	1,227	2,044
Living Standards	1,135	1,906
Relationships	1,025	1,590
Te Ao Māori	644	1,041
Community Participation	271	470

TINĪ WHETŪ KI TE RANGI FRAMEWORK

Aspirational Area	# Activities Completed	% of Total
Te Ara Mātauranga	4,586	19%
Mauri Ora	4,312	18%
Mana Motuhake	3,487	15%
Whakapakari Whanau	3,113	13%
Whanake Umanga	3,220	13%
Tuhono Tangata	1,632	7%
Whakaruruahu	1,472	6%
Te Reo, Tikanga, Toi	1,137	5%
Whakapapa, Whenua	969	4%
Total	23,928	

13,086

Whānau led activities

10,842

Kaiārahi supported activities

TE HĪNATŌRE FRAMEWORK

Languishing to Flourishing Whānau

	20/21 - Q4	21/22 - Q2	Baseline Shift
Ngā Tini Whetū	113	236	45% ▲
Ngā Whetū Tīramarama	271	215	32% ▲
Ngā Kāpehū Whetū	208	257	56% ▲
Ngā Whetū o Te Mangōroa	208	92	

WHĀĪA TE ARA WHETŪ FRAMEWORK

ACC

	20/21 - Q4	21/22 - Q2	Baseline Shift
Kaitārai Hapori	188	458	100% ▲
Kaiururangi Whānau	271	313	91% ▲

ORANGA TAMARIKI

	20/21 - Q4	21/22 - Q2	Baseline Shift
Whakamana Whānau	203	461	101% ▲
Whakangungu Whānau	255	221	97% ▲
Kaupare Whānau	231	52	41% ▲
Aukati Whānau	111	66	

WHĀNĀU HEALTH & WELLBEING CHAMPIONS

Whānau Vaccinated	552	69%
Whānau Champions	399	50%
Community Champions	283	35%

TE KETE ORANGA INVESTMENT

Investment Type	Investment Deployed	%	Investment Planned	%
Shared	\$2,506,294	40.8%	\$1,453,706	24.8%
Direct	\$3,641,103	59.2%	\$4,398,897	75.2%
Total	\$6,147,397		\$5,852,603	

56

WHĀIA TE ARA WHETŪ - FUNDER BASELINE - QUALITATIVE SHIFTS

(Refer Q4 Report>Report 1>Appendix Two>Page 23)

Funder Baseline Report – Agency Priorities

Oranga Tamariki and ACC both provided objectives for Ngā Tini Whetū that align with their respective agency priorities.

- Oranga Tamariki identified early intervention programmes so that whānau are engaged and worked with early so they do not come into contact with the Oranga Tamariki system.
- ACC have identified working with whānau so they become the champions for their whānau in injury prevention messages and whānau who become the community champions for injury prevention messages.

The following narrative highlights whānau progress across the spectrum of that measurement framework.

WHĀIA TE ARA WHETŪ – FOLLOWING THE PATHWAY TO THE STARS



Whānau are champions in healthy lifestyle and leading injury prevention

- Diverse range of whānau activities and outcomes across health and wellbeing, evidence the commitment by whānau to address and practise healthy lifestyles in ways that suit them
- Covid-19 and vaccination drives – by Māori for Māori became a catalyst for Whānau Ora to step up and actively navigate whānau through Covid-19 and vaccination support plans. Whānau engaged in honest and open dialogue and we saw a healthy uptake of vaccination rates. Many whānau supported their friends, colleagues and extended whānau to become vaccinated.
- Kaupapa mōri hauora – whānaugetanga, rongoa, romirōmi, mirimiri, karakia, waiata, maara kai, wairuatanga wānanga, tōhunga, gathering kaimoana me ika, te taiao, maramataka were more commonly practised as regular lifestyle choices towards health and wellbeing because they can all be done collectively as a whole whānau, whereas mainstream health is generally an individual engagement.
- Housing, transport and relationships were the most common areas that involved themes of safety, healthy, compliance and violent-free aspirations in which injury prevention is proactively managed



Whānau are champions within kaupapa māori engagements and interventions that create enduring distance from the Ministry of Oranga Tamariki system

- Whānau aspire to create safe, loving environments, free from violence for themselves and their tamariki. Committed to reducing the lifelong impact of family violence and abuse upon whānau tinana and hinengaro, by addressing the underlying historical and intergenerational trauma that contribute to violence and focus on healing from past trauma. Whānau are enabled to reach their full potential, supporting whānau to access counselling and parenting services, putting in place plans to ensure the safety of tamariki and celebrating whānau successes.
- Kaupapa mōri engagements and interventions - healing from trauma through wānanga, breathing, kaitiakitanga, mirimiri and rongoa are few examples that are being practised as a holistic approach to comfort whānau as they unpack history and emotions that are complex and often not understood. The healing journey is often of greatest impact within ones wairua.
- At the other end of the continuum many whānau are on pathways towards financial independence. There is consensus that an improvement of material wellbeing for whānau supports the development of other forms of wellbeing and enhances mana to ensure there is an enduring generational cycle of love, care and protection. Whānau in poverty and tamariki in state care are often statistically the same, whānau report that NTW offers pathways and opportunity to move out of spaces of financial vulnerability and into spaces of empowerment and independence being better prepared for the future and distancing the state from any type of intervention.

WHĀIA TE ARA WHETŪ FRAMEWORK				
ACC	20/21 - Q4	21/22 - Q2	Baseline Shift	
Kaitārai Hapori	188	458	100%	▲
Kaloururangi Whānau	271	313	91%	▲

ORANGA TAMARIKI				
	20/21 - Q4	21/22 - Q2	Baseline Shift	
Whakamana Whānau	203	461	101%	▲
Whakangungu Whānau	255	221	97%	▲
Kaupare Whānau	231	52	41%	▲
Aukati Whānau	111	66		

Aspirational Areas:

TINI WHETŪ KI TE RANGI - ASPIRATIONAL AREAS - 6 MONTH SHIFTS



(Refer Q4 Report>Report 1>Appendix Three>Page 35)

We further evolved the whākaaro of aspirational areas into a framework informed by whānau through Whānau Ora Partners called Tini Whetū ki te Rangi. Tini Whetū ki te Rangi groups nine aspirational areas which categorise types of activities and engagements whānau have an opportunity to access and pursue.

There were multiple unique and innovative kaupapa evidencing what and how whānau want to pursue their aspirations. These aspirational areas were consolidated to encapsulate the essence of what whānau participating in Ngā Tini Whetū can achieve.

Through their mahi, whānau are empowered to pursue their goals and aspirations to embrace their mana motuhake, self-determining what and how they want to achieve something.

Aspirational Areas - 6 Month Baseline Analysis

TINI WHETŪ KI TE RANGI FRAMEWORK		
Aspirational Area	# Activities Completed	% of Total
Te Ara Mātauranga	4,586	19%
Mauri Ora	4,312	18%
Mana Motuhake	3,487	15%
Whakapakari Whānau	3,113	13%
Whanake Umanga	3,220	13%
Tuhono Tangata	1,632	7%
Whakaruruhau	1,472	6%
Te Reo, Tikanga, Toi	1,137	5%
Whakapapa, Whenua	969	4%
Total	23,928	
 13,086	 10,842	
Whānau led activities	Kaitiaki supported activities	

Whānau have experienced a myriad of positive changes; both planned and unplanned that can be directly correlated to the activities whānau undertook.

The data illustrates that whānau are experiencing change in a variety of ways, evidenced by the following activities (by aspiration area) and the number of outcomes achieved mapped across whānau ora outcome domains, as well as the indicators that determine whether change has occurred or not.



TINI WHETŪ KI TE RANGI 'ASPIRATIONAL AREAS' - 6 MONTH SHIFTS

Whānau experienced a myriad of positive changes; both planned and unplanned that can be directly correlated to the activities whānau undertook. The data illustrates that whānau are experiencing change in a variety of ways, evidenced by the following activities (by aspiration area) and the number of outcomes achieved mapped across whānau ora outcome domains, as well as the indicators that determine whether change has occurred or not.

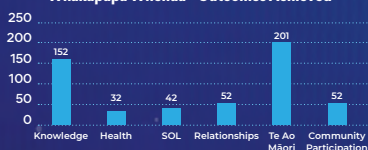
Whakapapa, Whenua

969

completed activities that enable whānau to explore their past, present and future; fostering an enduring and profound whānau connection to Marae, Iwi, Hapū, Tūrangawaewae and te Taiao (i.e. connection to maunga, awa, and waka).

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as; support Marae stay, wānanga and hui a whānau. Whānau hikoi ki te whenua. Legal support. Resource creation.

Whakapapa Whenua - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connecting to Iwi and Hapū leaders, research to discover, connect and share kōrero Wānanga a whānau, takahi whenua Whānau pūrakau Hikoi ki Whenua and maara kai Whānau videos and profiles Pepeha and mihimhi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding their whakapapa knowledge through discovery/research feel greater connection to their Tipuna, Iwi, Hapū, Whānau Improved confidence, grounding and stability Greater awareness and commitment to protect the whenua and be self sustainable in alignment with te Taiao 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to Māori land court and Sisters of Compassion archives Creating whānau trusts for land succession Whānau created resources (videos, books, electronic files) Iwi registrations Feeling of strong pull towards whenua and reconnecting a lost generation Meeting and connecting with new/extended whānau Number of generations engaging in activities

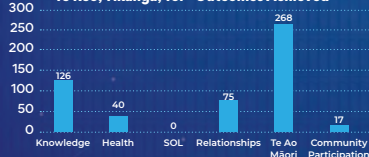
Te Reo, Tikanga, Toi

1,137

completed activities that promotes and amplifies whānau pride in being Māori and fosters a Māori worldview of living and being

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as; resources and supplies for study and application, Marae stay, wānanga and hui a whānau, Toi Māori advertising and promotion. Subs and fees.

Te Reo, Tikanga, Toi - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Akoma i te Te Reomāori. Wānanga - Maramataka, Raranga, Kawa & Tikanga Māori. Whakairo, Mau rakau, Kapa Haka, Karakia, moteatea and waiata. Whakatauki and whakatauki. Wahine and Tane focused. Waka Ama. Ta moko. Toi Māori business enterprise, exhibitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved knowledge, understanding and connection to Te Ao Māori, Whakapapa Improved confidence, grounding and stability Incorporating te reo, tikanga and kawa into lives Increasing awareness of toi Māori business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whānau implementing Maramataka Calendar for high / medium / low energy days Can recite pepeha Tamariki are learning all the waiata from their parents and grandparents Te Reo is spoken more

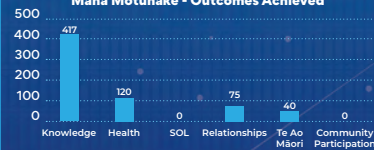
Mana Motuhake

3,487

completed activities that empowers whānau to live a positive lifestyle; growing capability and capacity to be leaders of self, whānau and community.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as; coaching and mentorship sessions, drivers licensing, birth certs, 18+ cards, passports, Arts & craft supplies for whānau vision board. Wānanga and haka/kaatahi.

Mana Motuhake - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wānanga - whakawhānauatanga, whānau presentations, intentions and affirmations PATH planning, vision board creation, goal setting Navigation - Whānau led and Kaitiaki led Empowerment programmes - Tane, Wahine, Tamariki, Whānau Coaching and mentorship - life, mindset Foundational needs - Drivers licensing, Birth certs, 18+ passports, GP enrolment, community services, benefits and entitlements, debt management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance, awareness and commitment to change for themselves and entire whānau Leading change for self, whānau, community Strengthening of whānau bonds Improved accountability and responsibility Improved planning and action towards goals, increased motivation Improved confidence and self-belief Improved awareness of support and pathways Access to support and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Āhua is brighter - talkative, open, outgoing Types of engagements and connections Shared understanding and collective goals and plans Can describe and feel mana

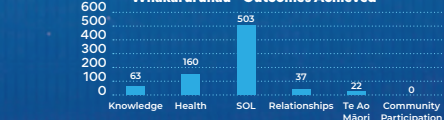
Whakaruruhau

1,472

completed activities that promotes and facilitates safe, sustainable and loving living environments, empowering whānau to access, maintain and enjoy affordable housing and papakainga living solutions.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as; home deposits, costs to occupy land, legal support, application fees, debt reduction to repurpose pots towards housing goals, furniture and furnishings, home repairs and maintenance, maara kai and environmentally friendly products and services, consulting fees and koha for mentors and experts.

Whakaruruhau - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency, social and rental housing pathways and advocacy. Relocation and move in costs Papakainga - process to build dwellings and infrastructure, license to occupy, surveying, council consents and legalities (i.e. trusts) Home ownership and building pathways - Tiny Homes and alternative dwellings Housing repairs and improvements, health & safety implementation and purchases, furniture and fitting upgrades Navigation - Kainga Ora, TPK, MSD, Māori Land Court, Tiny Home suppliers, Local Council Sustainable and ecofriendly living, maara kai, solar, water collection, waste and recycling options, healthy homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better access to housing and papakainga for future security and stability especially seen by whānau with Tamariki. Wellbeing is improved through greater connection to whenua, tūrangawaewae, Iwi and hapū Improved knowledge and confidence to navigate the complex housing system in Aotearoa Comfortable and healthier living environments, feeling "house proud" Improved conscious and proactive approaches to sustainable and ecofriendly ways of living Improved safety to reduce remove accidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong intergenerational bonds through connection to living on papakainga Secured housing, occupation compliance, legal support and execution were accessed Making phone calls and meetings, completing forms and applications ensuring the right assistance from Agencies and Org's is happening Repairs to areas around the where that were deemed unsafe Maara kai - growing and providing nourishment to whānau, also whānau are enjoying watching their kai grow Purchases through te kete oranga for all housing related aspirations, to immediately remove barriers

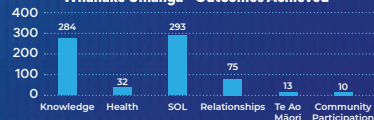
Whanake Umanga

3,220

completed activities that develops employment, business and financial wellbeing; fostering economic agency and prosperity.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as; seed funding for business start up, Equipment, tools, supplies, raw materials and technology for business, Course fees, workshops, programmes and related study supports, Consultants, mentors and experts. Debt reduction to increase savings and investments. Transport and vehicles.

Whanake Umanga - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment brokers and mentors for job readiness and advancement Work experience and apprenticeships CV's, dress for success, vehicle and transport (TKO) Mentoring and wānanga with experts concerning all things business, entrepreneurship and social enterprise - start up, scale up, strategy and growth Technology, digital, online and website Banking, IRD tax, Accounting & Finance, Legal and compliance, Insurance Research and access through TKO to business equipment, tools, supplies. Raw materials and technology Formal business courses - i.e. Hineboss, Toi Ohomai Networking for business promotion, Sales & Marketing support Financial literacy and management, budgeting, debt reduction and management - i.e. Money Mates Contributions to and from Māori business economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved financial independence Increase income for whānau Improved standard of living as reported by whānau Reduced stress and worry, greater confidence to manage and become financially stable Confident to seek employment Satisfied and enjoy mahi, works around whānau situation Career, employment, business and financial growth/ advancement is planned for and experienced Improve business activity and income generating activity Acquire new skills and knowledge to operate and grow business Debt is better managed Savings and investments are prioritised and increasing Access to support and resources for employment, business and financial wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Māori business owners and activity in the Māori business economy Whānau self report financial independence Income generation for/by whānau Reduce dependence on State welfare Budgets are followed and bad spending is remedied Reduction of "bad" debt, management of "good" debt Whānau have Savings, investments and assets Business ideation to start-up, to operational to growth and scale New employment and/or advancement Number of engagements and access to support and resources for employment, business and financial wellbeing

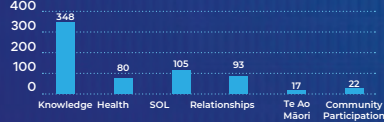
Te Ara Matauranga

4,586

completed activities that creates space to nurture whānau pathways to success providing access to educational and training opportunities that contribute to individual and the collective growth of the whānau and community.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as: ECE & School debt and other related costs, transport costs, study and course fees, scholarships, work experience expense, devices – laptops, smart phones, educational supplies and resources, internet connection and associated IT.

Te Ara Matauranga - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pāpi, Tamariki, Rangatahi education pathways – ECE and Kohanga Reo, Mainstream Primary, Intermediate and High School, Kura Kaupapa Māori, Alternative learning. Tertiary - Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Science, Bachelors of education, NZ Diploma in Music or NZ Diploma in Sports / Recreation and Exercise, Architecture, Fully trained and registered nurse, Diploma in Business Management Trades - builders/carpentry course at Toi Ohomai, Toi Ohomai to attend heavy machinery course, Employ NZ – Cookery, forklift OSH cert, Certificate of makeup artistry at New Zealand Beauty school. Other – Touch referee course to achieve her goal of being a Professional referee, Online business course, ACC rehabilitation Return to Work programme, GrowSafe course, First Aid Certificate level 1 & 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved enjoyment in learning Improved friendships and social connections Increased qualifications and certification Knowledge gained and transferred Improved earnings and income generation Willingness and commitment to share, promote and transfer knowledge Increased passion for learning Improved best practice in relation to industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-reported progress and satisfaction Observations by others i.e. Teachers, Parents Counts of access and engagement by type Attendance Resources accessed to support learning, and by type

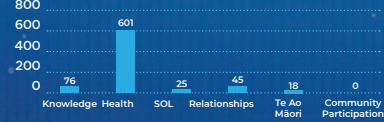
Mauri Ora

4,312

completed activities that builds the mauri of whānau and communities, promoting physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health that leads to individual, whānau, community and intergenerational wellbeing.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as: dental work, clinical specialists and expert appointments and sessions, GP and Pharmacy debt, Exercise programmes, equipment and fees, Wānanga and bespoke health kaupapa.

Mauri Ora - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical health – dentistry, exercise, sports, nutrition, healthy kai (kai in a crock pot), dieticians, weight loss, injury and prevention management. Health screening: heart, diabetes, cervical, Outdoor activities: hiking, walking, swimming, Smoking/vaping cessation. Kaupapa māori hauora – whanaungatanga, rongoa, romiromi, mirimiri, karakia, maara kai, waiatanga wānanga, tohunga, gathering kaimoana, te taiao Emotional health – Te Hii me te Haas breathing workshops Covid-19 – vaccinations and passports, testing, home isolation, wellbeing and hauora check-ins during lockdown, education and support, Manaaki and kai supplies Mental health services, personal profile journaling, stress reduction GP, phychologists, behaviour therapists, clinical (mobile and home visits) enrolments and appointments, Pre and post hospital and surgery support. Trauma and healing, counselling AOD rehab and support Health literacy incl healthy homes, health insurance, safe transport and vehicles Self- exclusion from damaging activities (i.e. gambling, smoking) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health literacy is gained and applied Empowered to take action for the betterment of health Improved engagement with mainstream health support and Providers Mindset shift, accepting and addressing unhealthy behaviours Confidence to sustain healthy lifestyles Improved relationships as a result of healing Better connection to Te Ao Māori Commitment to prioritise and pass on healthy habits to tamariki, mokopuna extended whānau 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-reported progress and satisfaction Counts of access and engagement by type Participation, with consideration to frequency Knowledge gained and transferred Covid-19 vaccinations & support by type Te Whare Tapa Whā measures of health

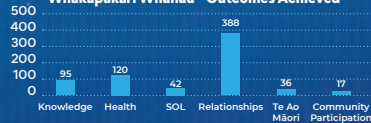
Whakapakari Whānau

3,113

completed activities that facilitates whānau to be cohesive and confident in their capacity to provide solutions that strengthen the whānau unit now and for future generations.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as: safe and legal vehicles, wills and testaments, devices for whānau online connectivity, Programmes, wānanga with experts and resources to support fit for purpose delivery as directed by whānau, Professional services and consultants.

Whakapakari Whānau - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whānau celebrations and events – kaitahi/hakari Whānau hui – tikanga & kawa, whakapapa, goals and planning for Tamariki, Maramataka & pūrakau. Parenting programmes – Grandparents raising mokopuna, Pāpi Ora, Family Start, Incredible Years, Māmā and Pāpi specific, tamariki play dates Relationship counselling, communication, trauma, grief, AOD, anger management Reunification of tamariki Relocating for whānau fresh start Restorative justice Advocacy and support referrals Whānau support – kai, living and essentials, Tamariki with disability and behavioural support, Transition from prison. TKO Quotes and purchases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whānau are together and in loving, safe and healthy living arrangements. They celebrate and support each other. Tamariki feel belonging and protection within their whānau, working together to achieve inter-generational goals Communication and coping skills are utilised to be a good functioning whānau Parents, grand parents and caregivers feel equipped to provide, basic needs, love and care for their whānau Parents are committed and supportive to provide the best love and care for their tamariki. They acknowledge past trauma and commit to future healing Parents, grand parents and caregivers are role models to their tamariki and wider extended whānau. Tikanga māori is practised and passed on to their tamariki, mokopuna and future generations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of generations engaged in NTW Feelings and examples from whānau / tamariki Basic needs are provided Whānau report they are in safe, healthy and loving living environments Number and types of engagements the strengthen whānau with reports of its effectiveness Positive behaviour changes, negative behaviours are better managed Can describe the love and support within whānau

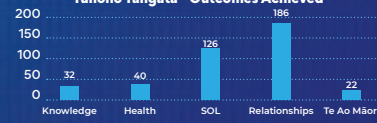
Tuhono Tangata

1,632

completed activities that enhances whānau involvement in their communities, nurturing reciprocal and supportive relationships and encouraging whānau to be future change makers.

Te Kete Oranga was deployed to support whānau with costs such as: sport and recreation fees and related costs, Kōha and purchase of supplies to help community initiatives, Transport and travel costs.

Tuhono Tangata - Outcomes Achieved



Activities	Outcomes	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agency and Org collaboration, Working better for whānau needs and support requirements Community support group and hui Community tree planting Sports and recreation participation Community activities at Marae i.e. working bees, maara maintenance Community run events i.e. youth groups, art exhibitions Volunteering at local Kura 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whanau improve knowledge and understand their rights and process to navigate and advocate their way through multiple agencies and org's Improved connection to local community, events and initiatives Making new friends and acquaintances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less frustration with Agency and Orgs, better comms and clearer plans of action to benefit whānau Correct entitlements and benefits received Satisfied and enjoy experiences within their communities Feel connected and make valuable contribution to society Multiple members of a whānau enjoy shared benefits of engagement i.e. sports & rec. Show loyalty and commitment to help and support where necessary Can describe the support and connection with Agency, Orgs, Community Groups

APPENDIX 2: REDUCING CHILD POVERTY, EMERGING THEMES



REDUCING CHILD POVERTY, EMERGING THEMES

Ngā Tini Whetū : Whānau and Tamariki with Mana

Overview

Child poverty is a major issue in New Zealand, with one in five children living in poverty. This chapter looks at how the Te Hīnātore model could be used to monitor and track child poverty, and how supporting whānau to be financially independent could be used to reduce child poverty. Reducing child poverty remains a major and complex challenge for Aotearoa New Zealand, but through initiatives like Ngā Tini Whetū, we can make a real difference in the lives of our tamariki.

Emerging findings

Child poverty is a major issue in New Zealand, with one in five children living in poverty. This chapter looks at how the Te Hīnātore model could be used to monitor and track child poverty, and how supporting whānau to be financially independent could be used to reduce child poverty. Reducing child poverty remains a major and complex challenge for Aotearoa New Zealand, but through initiatives like Ngā Tini Whetū, we can make a real difference in the lives of our tamariki.

Ngā Tini Whetū – The Collateral Change for Reducing Child Poverty

Achieving outcomes that are enduring goes to the heart of Whānau Ora. To support whānau achieve outcomes, multiple strategies wrapping around whānau at any one time is required. As a result, over the last six months we are starting to see the reduction of child poverty advanced in Ngā Tini Whetū through broader whānau goals being worked on. A concept we call collateral change – accomplishing a desired outcome as a by-product of another ongoing change.

Te Hīnātore: Children with Mana – The Ngā Tini Whetū Reducing Child Poverty Framework

The Ngā Tini Whetū Model - Te Hīnātore, is the Whānau Transformation model which outlines the different stages whānau undertake in their overall transformation, a framework for understanding whānau with mana. Te Hīnātore can also be applied to whānau and their children – whānau and children with mana. Therefore reducing child poverty is reframed in Ngā Tini Whetū in aspirational language as children with mana.

Financial Independence – The first emerging collateral change trend for Children with Mana

Over the last six months, financial independence and sustainability have been identified as key outcomes for whānau to aspire to. A multitude of activities have been occurring with whānau in supporting financial independence for whānau at every stage of the Te Hīnātore framework. Financial Independence is a key collateral change trend that can be used to reduce child poverty. For example, providing financial support for parents to return to work, or helping families to set up their own businesses. Financial independence also allows families to access essential services, such as healthcare and education, which can help to improve their wellbeing.

Te Hīnātore will now also become a framework from which to also include collateral change trends that support children with mana.

Financial independence and sustainability are key outcomes for whānau, which can be seen through their progress in resolving crisis, developing stability, and planning for their future. The impacts of COVID-19 on whānau has been immense, but with the support of the Ngā Tini Whetū partners, whānau and communities are finding ways to work together, pool resources, and secure income.

The First Pou in Te Hīnātore for Monitoring Progress Towards Tamariki with Mana - Financial Independence

The Ngā Tini Whetū pou - building financial independence for whānau is done through providing wraparound supports that connect whānau with employment, training, education and social supports. The programme has been successful in engaging whānau who are often disconnected from traditional government services.

Financial stability and independence is a key factor in reducing child poverty, with Whānau Ora being pivotal in achieving this goal. Through careful planning and goal setting, whānau are able to break free from the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future for their children. Both Kaiārahi and whānau report that change is happening, even in the short span of six months.

APPLYING THE FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE POU TO TE HĪNĀTORE

The following narrative considers common themes and trends that give substance to the data that WOCCA has collected and explains the "shifts" of whānau in their transformation journey.

Dimensions	Explaining the shift	What's happening for tamariki and whānau?	What's happening for tamariki?
Mangōroa	Resolving crisis - Improvement in financial literacy. Te Kete Oranga debt reduction. Getting drivers licenses. Counselling and addressing trauma. Self-resolving strategies. Being vulnerable and trusting to then accept aroha, awahi, and manaakitanga. Developing stability - R&M and purchase of safe vehicles. Following weekly budgets, remedied bad spending habits. Planning for whānau futures - Making better financial choices. Savings. Will and testament completed. Having more kōrero about future plans and goals.	In this phase whānau are resolving crisis, developing stability, and planning for their future. This shift is reflective of the change in whānau's relationship to financial independence. Financial independence has been approached with caution and a focus on stability. There has been movement towards developing sustainable futures for whānau, which will have positive outcomes for current and future generations of tamariki.	Behavioural issues decreasing – more calm, relaxed and content Showing interest in learning and doing well at school
Kāpehu	Direction and focus – PATH planning, vision boards, wānanga and motivation sessions with Kaiārahi. Unwavering commitment to unite and strengthen the whānau, especially where tamariki are involved Acquisition of particular skills – Education and trades enrolment and attendance. Understanding legal process to ensure reunification with tamariki. Mentoring and coaching that is fit for purpose with real-life experience. Te Ao Māori – Whiria te tāngata. The weaving of Te Ao Māori through the engagement and delivery. Acknowledging the significance of Mauri. Positive Relationships – Commitment to healing. Strengthened bonds. Better communications and shared dreams and goals for the entire whānau. Plans and action are supported and celebrated together.	This shift is about whānau gaining focus and direction, developing particular skills, and strengthening relationships. These changes are underpinned by a commitment to Te Ao Māori and the desire to have positive relationships within the whānau. In this Whānau have achieved some stability and they are working towards becoming more financially independent. Financial independence is an important goal for many whānau, as it allows them to be self-sufficient and provide for their whānau. Financial Literacy has improved and this is reflected in the choices they are making with their money. They are committing themselves to unite and strengthen the whānau, especially where tamariki are involved. They are also acquiring particular skills, such as education and trades enrolment that will help them reach their goals. The whānau is also weaving Te Ao Māori into their lives, which contributes to a sense of belonging and connectedness.	Physical wellbeing - good health, no hospital admissions Attending school regularly Emotional wellbeing - more positive outlook, laughing and joking more, increased confidence Spiritual wellbeing - praying more, increased connection to tipuna Māori Social wellbeing - hanging out with friends more, participating in sport
Tiramarama	Passion – Wairua is ignited. Proactive to initiate within the realm of possibility. Self-belief, self-empowerment. Resilience – Growth mindset. Accepting their worth, overcoming trauma. Continuously moving forward. Adaptable – Consistent engagement with Kaiārahi during Covid lockdowns. Adapted to online learning and engagement to progress their plans and goals. Innovation – Conscious purchasing towards sustainability and environmentally friendly product and services. Business solutions not just for financial independence but also to promote Te Ao Māori, Toi Māori, Mātauranga Māori and Proud to be Māori.	This shift is about whānau gaining passion, resilience and adaptability. Whānau have found their passion and are resilient in the face of adversity and are adapting to changes in their environment. They are innovative in the way they are approaching their goals, and are committed to promoting Te Ao Māori values. They have a growth mindset, which allows them to overcome any trauma they may have experienced. The whānau is united and supportive of each other, and they are working towards a common goal.	Entering into puberty – physical and emotional changes Forming identities as Māori and New Zealanders Eager to learn more about their culture and identity Tamariki feel safe and connected to their whānau
Ngā Tini Whetū	Rangatiratanga - Prioritisation of whānau voice, aspirations and strengths so that "the system fits the whānau, rather than the whānau fitting in the system" - Kaiārahi at Raukura Hauora o Tainui. The whānau-centric approach is fundamental, ensuring whānau are leading change. It is noticed with an increase in whānau confidence, leadership and independence. Mātauranga - across all activities by aspirational area, acquiring knowledge, new learnings and skills are apparent. Formal and informal learning environments that suit whānau are adopted i.e. on the Marae vs in a lecture hall. Adapting to online learning methods and new technology allowed whānau to continue to learn with new disciplines and habits formed. Oranga - Health and wellbeing was especially high amongst outcomes achieved. The global pandemic, lock-downs and vaccination rollout in Aotearoa were some reasons for this. However, whānau had greater desire for sustainable health. Sovereignty over healthy kai and being able to provide for whānau regardless of changing environments were common aspirations. Whānau are leading the way in what health looks like for them, with a lean towards Te Taiao and Mātauranga Māori taking precedent. Ōhanga - Whānau have aspired to achieve financial independence with many pathways that move them out of spaces of financial vulnerability and into spaces of empowerment and independence. Whānau are conscious of their responsibilities and invigorated to explore business, safe and healthy housing and sustainable living arrangements as options to generate wealth. Tikanga - Whānau with mana are firmly embedded in Te Ao Māori and tikanga, reconnecting whānau to their whakapapa and identity. Wānanga has been the preferred engagement and learning approach a safe space for whānau to connect on all levels – taha tinana, hinengaro, wairua, and whānau. Being Māori is the key to whānau with mana and emerging tikanga as a result of Ngā Tini Whetū is being expressed by whānau: "Success is no longer an aspiration but an expectation!"	In this stage, whānau are striving for excellence in all areas of their lives and have a clear vision for the future – one which is based on Te Ao Māori worldviews and values. Whānau with mana are leading the way and inspiring others to follow their aspirations.	Tamariki are the primary drivers for change in their whānau

Mangōroa	Resolving crisis - Improvement in financial literacy, Te Kete Oranga debt reduction. Getting drivers licenses. Counselling and addressing trauma. Self-resolving strategies. Being vulnerable and trusting to then accept archaic whāia and manaakitanga. Developing stability - R&M and purchase of safe vehicles. Following weekly budgets, remedied bad spending habits. Planning for whānau futures - Making better financial choices. Savings. Will and testament completed. Having more kōrero about future plans and goals.	In this phase whānau are resolving crisis, developing stability, and planning for their future. This shift is reflective of the change in whānau's relationship to financial independence. Financial independence has been approached with caution and a focus on stability. There has been movement towards developing sustainable futures for whānau, which will have positive outcomes for current and future generations of tamariki.	Behavioural issues decreasing - more calm, relaxed and content Showing interest in learning and doing well at school
Kāpehu	Direction and focus - PATH planning, vision boards, wānanga and motivation sessions with Kaiārahi. Unwavering commitment to unite and strengthen the whānau, especially where tamariki are involved Acquisition of particular skills - Education and trades enrolment and attendance. Understanding legal process to ensure reunification with tamariki. Mentoring and coaching that is fit for purpose with real-life experience. Te Ao Māori - Whiria te tāngata. The weaving of Te Ao Māori through the engagement and delivery. Acknowledging the significance of Mauri. Positive Relationships - Commitment to healing. Strengthened bonds. Better communications and shared dreams and goals for the entire whānau. Plans and action are supported and celebrated together.	This shift is about whānau gaining focus and direction, developing particular skills, and strengthening relationships. These changes are underpinned by a commitment to Te Ao Māori and the desire to have positive relationships within the whānau. In this Whānau have achieved some stability and they are working towards becoming more financially independent. Financial independence is an important goal for many whānau, as it allows them to be self-sufficient and provide for their whānau. Financial Literacy has improved and this is reflected in the choices they are making with their money. They are committing themselves to unite and strengthen the whānau, especially where tamariki are involved. They are also acquiring particular skills, such as education and trades enrolment that will help them reach their goals. The whānau is also weaving Te Ao Māori into their lives, which contributes to a sense of belonging and connectedness.	Physical wellbeing - good health, no hospital admissions Attending school regularly Emotional wellbeing - more positive outlook, laughing and joking more, increased confidence Spiritual wellbeing - praying more, increased connection to tipuna Māori Social wellbeing - hanging out with friends more, participating in sport
Tiramarama	Passion - Wairua is ignited. Proactive to initiate within the realm of possibility. Self-belief, self-empowerment. Resilience - Growth mindset. Accepting their worth, overcoming trauma. Continuously moving forward. Adaptable - Consistent engagement with Kaiārahi during Covid lockdowns. Adapted to online learning and engagement to progress their plans and goals. Innovation - Conscious purchasing towards sustainability and environmentally friendly product and services. Business solutions not just for financial independence but also to promote Te Ao Māori, Toi Māori, Mātauranga Māori and Proud to be Māori.	This shift is about whānau gaining passion, resilience and adaptability. Whānau have found their passion and are resilient in the face of adversity and are adapting to changes in their environment. They are innovative in the way they are approaching their goals, and are committed to promoting Te Ao Māori values. They have a growth mindset, which allows them to overcome any trauma they may have experienced. The whānau is united and supportive of each other, and they are working towards a common goal.	Entering into puberty - physical and emotional changes Forming identities as Māori and New Zealanders Eager to learn more about their culture and identity Tamariki feel safe and connected to their whānau
Ngā Tini Whetū	Rangatiratanga - Prioritisation of whānau voice, aspirations and strengths so that "the system fits the whānau, rather than the whānau fitting in the system" - Kaiārahi at Raukura Hauora o Tainui. The whānau-centric approach is fundamental, ensuring whānau are leading change. It is noticed with an increase in whānau confidence, leadership and independence. Mātauranga - across all activities by aspirational area, acquiring knowledge, new learnings and skills are apparent. Formal and informal learning environments that suit whānau are adopted i.e. on the Marae vs in a lecture hall. Adapting to online learning methods and new technology allowed whānau to continue to learn with new disciplines and habits formed. Oranga - Health and wellbeing was especially high amongst outcomes achieved. The global pandemic, lock-downs and vaccination rollout in Aotearoa were some reasons for this. However, whānau had greater desire for sustainable health. Sovereignty over healthy kai and being able to provide for whānau regardless of changing environments were common aspirations. Whānau are leading the way in what health looks like for them, with a lean towards Te Taiao and Mātauranga Māori taking precedent. Ōhanga - Whānau have aspired to achieve financial independence with many pathways that move them out of spaces of financial vulnerability and into spaces of empowerment and independence. Whānau are conscious of their responsibilities and invigorated to explore business, safe and healthy housing and sustainable living arrangements as options to generate wealth. Tikanga - Whānau with mana are firmly embedded in Te Ao Māori and tikanga, reconnecting whānau to their whakapapa and identity. Wānanga has been the preferred engagement and learning approach a safe space for whānau to connect on all levels - taha tinana, hinengaro, wairua, whānau. Being Māori is the key to whānau with mana and emerging tikanga as a result of Ngā Tini Whetū is being expressed by whānau: "Success is no longer an aspiration but an expectation!"	In this stage, whānau are striving for excellence in all areas of their lives and have a clear vision for the future - one which is based on Te Ao Māori worldviews and values. Whānau with mana are leading the way and inspiring others to follow their aspirations.	Tamariki are the primary drivers for change in their whānau

Emerging Indicator sets for Tamariki with Mana aligned with Financial Independence

As a result of the analysis of the initial shifts made for tamariki and their whānau, above, an emerging indicator set of aspirations supporting tamariki with mana as a result of whānau activities supporting financial independence can be noted as follows;

Mangōroa:

- Increasingly more calm, relaxed and content - Showing interest in learning and doing well at school.

Kāpehu:

- Physical wellbeing - good health (no hospital admissions)
- Attending school regularly
- Emotional Wellbeing - more positive outlook, laughing and joking more, increased confidence
- Spiritual Wellbeing - increased connection to tipuna Māori, karakia becoming an increasing part of lifestyle
- Social wellbeing - hanging out with friends more, participating in sport.

Tiramarama:

- Successfully entering into puberty - physical and emotional changes are managed well
- Forming identities as Māori and New Zealanders
- Eager to learn more about their culture and identity
- Tamariki feel safe and connected to their whānau

Ngā Tini Whetū:

- Tamariki are the primary drivers for change in their whānau
-

Rangatahi Revolution - A Case Study of Change in Crisis

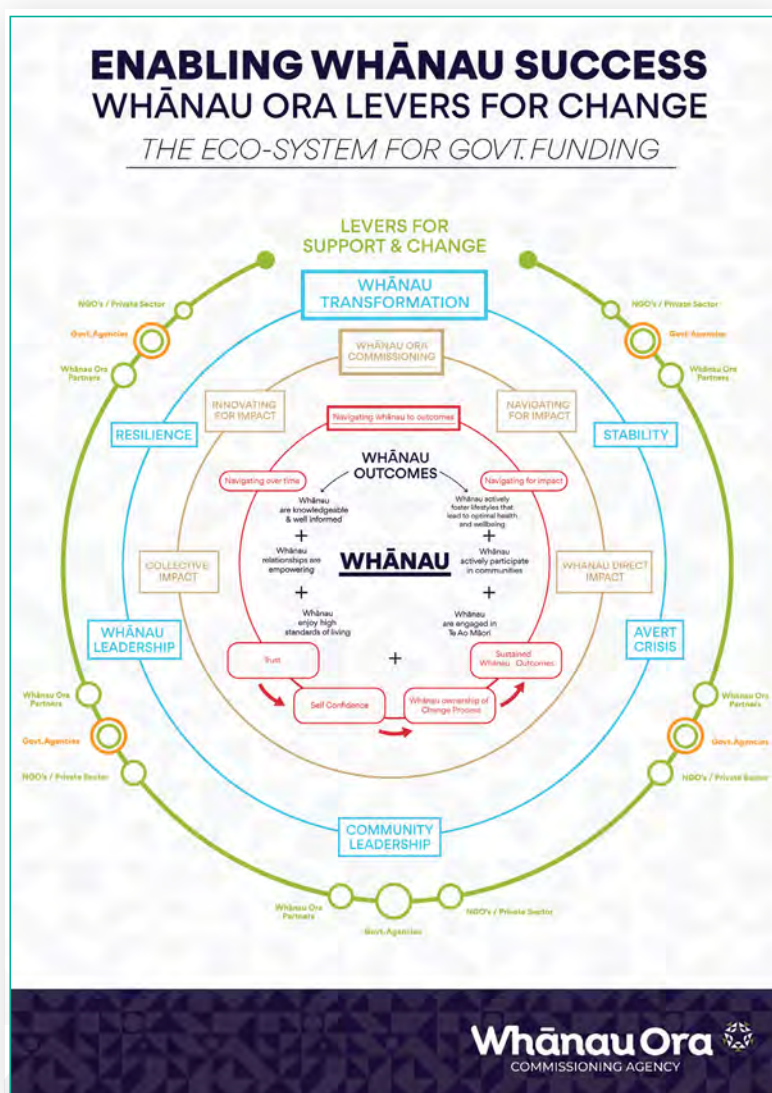
The following case study is an example from one of our partners in the Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki Collective who shares how breaking the cycles of poverty has unwrapped their programme with Rangatahi on Ngā Tini Whetū. By undertaking activities described in the financial Pou, the successes to date of these rangatahi are evidence of the above emerging indicator sets.



APPENDIX 3: THE ECO-SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING

During the co-design of Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot between the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet, Oranga Tamariki, ACC and Te Puni Kōkiri, a Levers of Change Model was developed that shows the eco-system of Government levers that enable change for whānau. Working with Oranga Tamariki and ACC across each Whānau Ora Collective to identify and work on common agreed priorities for co-designing regional programmes with each agency. Note, this is over and above each individual Whānau Ora partner funding and contracting relationships with Oranga Tamariki and ACC. It is within this context it was identified:

1. Ngā Tini Whetū is a model from which agencies can fund a new public sector collective investment for achieving outcomes for whānau.
2. Ngā Tini Whetū has two parts:
 - a. Undertaking a programme that wraps around achieving the goals and aspirations for 800 whānau, and;
 - b. Having a resource within each of the Whānau Ora Collectives that enables Collectives to have additional co-design discussions on priorities for Oranga Tamariki and ACC at a Collective level. Note, Collective discussions are in addition to any contracting arrangements and discussions at an individual Partner level with the Agencies.



APPENDIX 4: NGĀ TINI WHETŪ OUTCOMES AND INDICATORS

Data collected as part of the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot was used to inform the development of a set of outcomes and indicators that could be used to measure the success of the Ngā Tini Whetū approach in reducing child poverty. In brief, the outcomes and indicators were developed through a process of consultation with WOCA partners, Whānau Ora Navigators, reviewing partner reports, and data collected through Whānau Tahi.

Outcomes achieved by Whānau as a result of participating in Ngā Tini Whetū:

- Increased motivation and desire to achieve goals and aspirations through:
 - Improved access to leadership (motivation speakers), confidence building, and life skills (planning and goal setting) courses
 - Improved confidence, leadership, and life skills including planning and goal setting.
- Improved financial security through:
 - Improved access to financial literacy, budgeting, and debt reduction courses and programmes
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards financial literacy, budgeting, and debt reduction
 - Increased financial literacy, budgeting, and debt reduction knowledge
 - Improved financial management and budgeting and reduced debt
 - Reducing debt, payment of overdue bills and outstanding fines
 - Improved access to services and resources related to business development, social enterprise, and self-employment
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards business development, social enterprise, and self-employment
 - Increased knowledge regarding business development, social enterprise, and self-employment
 - Increased whānau business development, social enterprise, and self-employment
 - Improved access to financial services for the provisions for the future including savings and investments
 - Improved knowledge and skills regarding financial services for provisions for the future including savings and investments.
- Improved housing via:
 - Improved access to home ownership, housing standards including rental accommodation and emergency housing, household maintenance and repairs
 - Increased confidence and attitude towards improving home ownership, housing standards including rental accommodation and emergency housing, household maintenance and repairs
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding home ownership, housing standards including household maintenance and repairs
 - Increased housing standards including home ownership, completed household maintenance and repairs.
- Improved education via:
 - Improved access to education/training courses/programmes
 - Improved confidence/attitude around education/training
 - Improved qualifications and/or employment
 - Increased knowledge/skills acquired through education/training
 - Increased knowledge/skills about health and wellbeing
 - Improved ability in use of Information Communication and Technology
 - Improved access to Information Communication and Technology

- Increased knowledge of Information Communication and Technology
- Improved access to parenting courses
- Increased parenting knowledge and skills
- Improved parenting.
- Improved overall health via:
 - Improved confidence around better nutrition
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding nutrition
 - Improved nutrition
 - Improved access to oral health services
 - Improved oral health
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards participation in sports and recreation and physical activity
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding physical activity/exercise
 - Increased physical activity and exercise
 - Increased participation in sports and recreation and physical activity
 - Improved access to physical and personal health resources and services
 - Improved confidence and attitude around the management of physical and personal health
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding physical and personal health
 - Improved physical and personal health
 - Improved access to spiritual health services
 - Improved spiritual health
 - Improved access to violence and abuse prevention services
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding prevention of violence and abuse
 - Reduced and/or violence and abuse free
 - Improved confidence and attitude around prevention of violence and abuse
 - Improved access to whānau and social health services
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding whānau and social health
 - Improved whānau and social health.
- Increased social, cultural and spiritual capital via:
 - Increased connections and engagement with Māori community organisations
 - Increased participation in kapa haka, marae and/or other cultural activities
 - Improved access to te reo Māori courses
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards speaking Te reo Māori
 - Increased knowledge regards the ability to speak te reo Māori
 - Increased use of te reo Māori
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards Māori lore, knowledge, and customs
 - Increased knowledge regarding Māori lore, knowledge, and customs
 - Increased use of Māori lore, knowledge, and customs
 - Improved access to whakapapa and whānau connections
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards whakapapa and whānau connections
 - Increased knowledge of whakapapa and whānau connections
 - Increased whakapapa and whānau connections
 - Improved access to knowledge about whenua tupuna
 - Improved access to whenua tupuna
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards accessing knowledge about whenua tupuna
 - Increased Knowledge about whenua tupuna.

Whānau who participated in Ngā Tini Whetū also reported improvements in:

- Mental health via:
 - Improved access to mental health services
 - Improved confidence around managing mental health
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding mental health
 - Improved access to alcohol, drug, and gambling rehab services
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding negative effects of alcohol, drugs and gambling
 - Reduced alcohol, drug, and gambling use.
- Employment prospects via:
 - Improved access to services and resources related to whānau employment
 - Increased knowledge and skills relevant for employment
 - Improved access to safe transport options
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards safe transport options
 - Increased use of safe transport options.
- Confidence and capability via:
 - Improved access to community resources
 - Improved confidence and attitude regarding accessing community resources
 - Increased access to community resources
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding access to community resources
 - Improved confidence and attitude regarding connecting to community networks
 - Increased connection to community networks
 - Improved access to more empowering and rewarding relationships with social, health, and education service providers (including Government Departments)
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards relationships with social, health, and education service providers (including Government Departments)
 - Improved relationships with social, health, and education service providers (including Government Departments)
 - Improved access to recourses or support regarding safety issues, legal issues and risk management
 - Improved safety issues, legal issues and risk management
 - Reduced issues, legal issues and risk management in the whānau
 - Improved whānau and household relationships
 - Improved access to more empowering and rewarding wider whānau relationships
 - Improved confidence and attitude towards legal documentation, birth certificates, passports, ID and driver licences
 - Increased possession of legal documentation, birth certificates, passports, ID and driver licences.

Based on the insights and learnings gained through the Ngā Tini Whetū Pilot, the following are examples of indicators for selected outcomes that potentially contribute to the reduction of child poverty seen from qualitative and quantitative Pilot data.

- For Whānau who reported improved financial security some indicators included:
 - Business development
 - Debt management and reduction
 - Using a budget and making better financial choices
 - Attending financial literacy courses

- Attending a money management course
- Full-time employment
- Accessing kete oranga funds
- Enrolling with a financial mentor.
- For Whānau who reported improved housing some indicators included:
 - Building on papakāinga
 - Completing and or undertaking house renovations, repairs or maintenance
 - Exploring home ownership options, attending a home ownership course or home ownership planning.
 - Saving towards a deposit for home ownership
 - Application for a home loan
 - Mortgage pre approval
 - Renting or securing accommodation
 - Securing emergency or transitional Housing
 - Kāinga Ora application
 - Applying for home repair funding
 - Improved home heating
 - House building
 - Home ownership.
- For Whānau who reported improved mental health some indicators included:
 - Attending counselling sessions and/or cognitive therapy
 - Engaged with a psychologist or counsellor
 - Undertaking Mental health monitoring
 - Improved confidence around managing mental health
 - Reduced anxiety
 - Attended a retreat to improve mental health
 - Increased confidence and self-belief
 - Managing long-term injury
 - Taking medication
 - Attending mental health support groups or accessing resources
 - Increased knowledge and skills regarding mental health
 - Managing mental health conditions.
- For Whānau who reported improved physical and personal health some indicators included:
 - Accessing medical treatment and/or cancer treatment
 - GP enrolment
 - Receiving Vaccinations
 - Improved confidence around management of physical and personal health
 - Injury prevention
 - Managing health conditions
 - Managing long-term injury
 - Attending team trainings or physical fitness trainings
 - Completed a 7-week wellness programme
 - Improved health.

- For Whānau who reported improved employment or employment prospects some indicators included:
 - Improved access to services and resources related to whānau employment
 - Completing a training course and achieving certificate
 - Enrolled in course-health coach diploma
 - Attending business courses
 - Business development
 - Business mentoring
 - Business planning
 - Career planning
 - Apprenticeship
 - Class 2 Drivers Licence
 - Completed a course
 - Completed degree course
 - Creative Arts through carving and tattooing
 - CV professionally prepared
 - Forklift OSH Certificate
 - Seeking employment
 - Studying cookery
 - Teacher training placement
 - Work tools supplied
 - Improved school attendance
 - Music development
 - Studying Tikanga Māori
 - Obtaining employment or self-employment.
- For Whānau who reported increased social, cultural and spiritual capital some indicators included:
 - Co-design a rangatahi leadership program
 - Creating a community kai garden/maara kai
 - Increased participation in Kapahaka, marae and/or other cultural activities
 - Business planning
 - Improved access to te reo Māori courses
 - Studying Te Reo Māori
 - Attending a Te Reo Māori courses
 - Increased reo and tikanga understanding
 - Increased Te Reo knowledge
 - Te Reo in the home is the norm
 - Teaching Te Reo Māori
 - Increased use of Te Reo Māori
 - Studying Te Reo Māori
 - Studying Tikanga Māori
 - Attended wahine maramataka wananga
 - Confidently engaging in Te Ao Māori
 - Improved knowledge on Te Ao Māori
 - Reconnecting to whakapapa/ whānau members
 - Increased use of Māori lore/knowledge/customs

- Whānau implementing Maramataka Calendar
- Improved access to whakapapa/whānau connections
- Nature hike
- Reconnecting to whakapapa/whānau members
- Increased knowledge of whakapapa/whānau connections
- Increased whakapapa/whānau connections
- Accessing kete oranga funds
- Iwi registration
- Improved access to Knowledge about whenua tupuna
- Connection to land/whenua
- Navigate Māori Land Court processes
- Securing right to occupy whānau land
- Improved access to whenua tupuna
- Papakāinga has water supply
- Connection to land/whenua.
- For Whānau who reported increased confidence and capability some indicators included:
 - Attending leadership course
 - Attending wahine empowerment courses
 - Completed tane empowerment courses
 - Enrolled in self-empowerment course
 - Increased confidence and self-belief
 - Kaiārahi planning, navigation, and support
 - Life coach engagement
 - More independence
 - Self-managing and empowered leaders.
- For Whānau who reported improved education some indicators included:
 - Completing a training course/achieving certificate
 - Completing degree course
 - Enrolled in 'Alt Learning'
 - Enrolled in business course
 - Enrolled in degree course
 - Enrolled in ECE/Kōhanga
 - Enrolled in tertiary studies
 - Enrolled in training course
 - Planning further study
 - Returned to school
 - Studying/studying full-time
 - Studying Te Reo Māori
 - Career planning
 - Carving training course
 - Completed a course
 - Completed online course
 - Completing a training course and achieving a certificate
 - Completing degree course

- Course in literacy and numeracy
 - Enrolled in further study
 - Enrolled in traditional medicine course
 - Financial literacy
 - Health literacy
 - Improved financial literacy
 - Improved school attendance
 - Increased confidence and self-belief
 - Music development
 - Planning further study
 - Rongoa wananga
 - Studying Te Reo Māori
 - Studying Tikanga Māori.
- For whānau who reported increased parenting knowledge and skills some indicators included:
 - Improved access to parenting courses
 - Attending and completing parenting courses
 - Improved parenting knowledge and skills
 - Minimising further intervention by Oranga Tamariki
 - Shared care of children.
- For whānau who reported improved relationships with social, health, and education service providers (including Government Departments) some indicators included:
 - Children to transition home from State Care
 - Legal advice, advocacy, and support
 - Oranga Tamariki risk reduction
 - No Oranga Tamariki involvement
 - Unsupervised care of children
 - Advocacy with Ministry of Justice
 - Exit from Oranga Tamariki.



